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CPS record Flames fans en masse



Fans celebrated on the Red Mile after the Calgary Flames eliminated the Vancouver Canucks from the playoffs on April 25. MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO

RED MILE

Privacy expert says police's reasoning may be problematic



Morgan Modjeski
Metro | Calgary

If you're looking to get rowdy on the Red Mile during Friday's playoff bout between the Calgary Flames and the Anaheim Ducks, you may want to think twice, as your actions will likely end up on police video.

Officers have been using hand-held video cameras to document crowds on the Red Mile, but privacy experts say the recordings may violate the privacy of revellers.

Staff Sgt. Steve Ellefson, who is overseeing the CPS response on the Red Mile, said the cameras are being used to monitor for potential offences and crowd movements.

"It's a normal part of our business when dealing with any sort of large event or event

out in public where we have a number of members deployed," said Ellefson.

"If it's a heavy crowd and we're not able to see into the middle of it, we may use a video recording to record what's going on."

He noted police will review the tapes, if needed, to find witnesses, suspected offenders, or victims.



This whole just-in-case reasoning really doesn't fly under the collection rules.

Rick Klumpenhower

Ellefson didn't say precisely how many police cameras have been rolling on the Red Mile, but Rick Klumpenhower, a privacy and information expert and a partner at the human resource and business consulting firm, Cenera, said the recordings could be problematic.

"What it comes down to is:

If they don't have a legitimate, narrow, operating purpose for doing that, then they can't do it — it's as simple as that," he said. "In this case surveillance is always a problem because it's random and you really can't pinpoint why you're collecting that person's image on the street."

Under the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act, police are allowed to collect information for law enforcement purposes, but Klumpenhower said the CPS reasoning in this instance might fall short of what's permitted.

"This whole just-in-case reasoning really doesn't fly under the collection rules," he said.

However, Ellefson said the CPS would also be utilizing the thousands of cameras already on the Red Mile in the hands of Flames Fans who post video online.

"This sort of recording is nothing new," he said, noting the footage would also be used to document the conduct of police.

"It's our belief that it falls within our responsibility as a police service to ensure the safety of our citizens here in Calgary."

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Possible soda sales surge

ORANGE CRUSH

Company says it has no political affiliation



Jeremy Nolais
Metro | Calgary

Notley is bubbly, not afraid to bite — especially during debates. It is the same fizzy appeal and kick.

Notley is popular with the kids. It is commonly drank at pizza parties.

Rachel Notley, Orange Crush. The perfect pairing.

The soda's slogan has become a common phrase for those describing Notley and the Alberta NDP's stunning election victory, one that overturned a Tory dynasty spanning more than four decades.

A quick search of "orange crush NDP" in Google News returned more than 70,000 hits Thursday.

Supporters of the party's surge have been known to cart cans of Crush to rallies and, as the election results rolled Tuesday, some could be seen at its Calgary headquarters posting photos of the product to social media.

Officially, the company behind Crush, Canada Dry Mott's, said while it supports people consuming its product, it has no political affiliation.

But Mohammed El Hazzouri, an assistant professor of mar-

keting at Mount Royal University, said there really is the potential for some NDP faithful to develop a craving for Orange Crush. Some may not even consciously make the connection, he said.

"There might be an association between the fact that she (Notley) is cool, she's hip, she's promoting change," El Hazzouri said.

There's precedent for such product association, he said, noting that Mars chocolate bars saw a surprising uptick in sales during a high-profile Nasa mission to the Red Planet.

Still, El Hazzouri cautioned that marketing is a tricky game and just four in 10 Albertans actually marked an X next to their riding's NDP candidate on election day.

"I'm never going to drink Orange Crush again" — some people would say that," he said.

Product placement and political parties is not solely an NDP creation either, it seems. Calgary's Wild Rose Brewery began producing sudsy beverages six years before the right-wing party with the same name formed, yet marketing manager Blair Bullied said they routinely get asked about a potential political affiliation.

"Especially people that aren't from Alberta but know about the political party, they associate it with us," she said, adding some visitors even suggest the brewery grow the same poppy used in the party's logo in its exterior garden.

For the record, the brewery supports both the Wildrose and NDP, Bullied said.



Alberta NDP Leader Rachel Notley holds a can of Orange Crush as she enters a campaign rally in Calgary in early May. JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

POLITICS

Notley begins transition

Incoming premier Rachel Notley has taken the first step toward taking over power in Alberta by formally meeting with the lieutenant-governor to seek approval to form government.

Notley said Thursday there's no date yet for when she will be sworn in as the province's 17th premier.

"Getting over the fact that people call me premier now is sort of fading," she said outside Lt.-Gov. Donald Ethell's office.

"Now I'm starting to have some really amazing meetings about all the things that we have on our plate."

She said she and her 52 caucus members are to meet Saturday and she admitted things are hectic in their current space.

"Four people on one desk fighting over the computer, trying to figure out where to plug in the phone. We're at that sort of level right now."

The NDP dismantled the 44-year-old Progressive Conservative dynasty on Tuesday by winning a majority in the provincial election.

The Wildrose party captured 21 seats to retain its role as official Opposition, while the Tories under Jim Prentice plunged to 10 seats from 70. He announced that night that he was quitting politics. The Liberals kept one seat and the Alberta Party will send its first elected member to the legislature.

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The journey has begun but is far from over.



Election spurs CBE to pause service cuts

EDUCATION

Rachel Notley has pledged to fund incoming students



Jeremy Nolais
Metro | Calgary

Calgary public school officials have put a freeze on plans to cut into budgets for administration, maintenance and other service units as they await "further budget direction" from the newly elected NDP government.

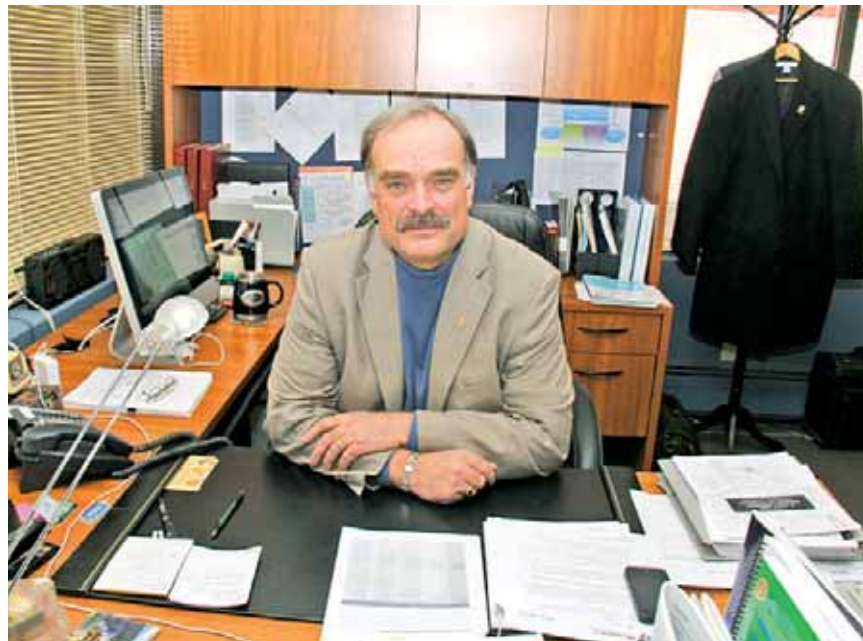
The move was communicated to Calgary Board of Education staff in a letter from Chief Supt. David Stevenson on Wednesday, mere hours after Leader Rachel Notley and the NDP earned more than 50 seats in the Alberta legislature.

During their election campaign, the party pledged to provide funding for 12,000 additional students expected in the province — something not done in the March budget from the previously ruling Tories.

"For now, we are awaiting further budget direction from the government before we implement planned restrictions to service units," Stevenson wrote to staff. "It is important to recognize that the fiscal situation in Alberta remains challenging."

After the Tory budget dropped, it was expected multiple service units would take cuts as the board worked to close a \$30-million funding gap.

According to online documents, service units account



Frank Bruseker, president of the Alberta Teachers' Association local, says he's hopeful more money will come for schools in time for the fall. METRO FILE

for a little more than a quarter of the CBE's nearly \$1.2-billion budget and include funding for senior-level staff, area directors, maintenance workers, supplementary instructors, transportation and other external services.

School principals, however, were instructed by Stevenson in his letter to carry on with their own in-house planning using the organization's resource-allocation method booklet to determine how much funding they will receive.

But Frank Bruseker, president of the Alberta Teachers' Association local, said he had concerns about that approach.

While it's expected the CBE will maintain its front-line teacher counts for the fall, Bruseker said other support staff — "secretarial staff, that second guidance counsellor, the library assistant" — could be shown the door.

"That could also have an impact on teachers, other staff and, most importantly, students," he said, adding he believes the CBE should plan for a "status quo" that would provide the same per-student funding the organization received in 2014-15.

But it's not yet clear if the NDP government will have time to find the financial wiggle

room to funnel more money to the classroom before the 2015-16 school year.

"The timeline for funding and budget and things like that is going to be rolled out in the next few days," government spokesperson Cheryl Oates said. "There's a lot of moving pieces right now and it's a lot of work to transition from campaigning, from opposition, from caucus, into actually governing."

"The premier-elect plans to implement her platform — the platform she ran on, the platform Albertans supported. There are no plans at this point to deviate from that."

TRANSPORTATION

CBE dodges \$5M bullet with NDP's win

Tory cuts to education transportation funding would have left Calgary's public school board with a gaping \$5-million hole that, in all likelihood, would have been made up in part by hiking costs for families, officials conceded Thursday.

But now the Calgary Board of Education will await any changes to the funding scheme that could come under the new NDP government elected Tuesday.

"Perhaps with the new government, we will have the potential to address the metro (school board funding) formula and see what changes we are able to make," said Darlene Unruh, the

board's director of planning and transportation.

To give some sense of the scale of the cuts that came in the Tory budget, last year, when the CBE moved to hike busing fees from \$295 to \$330 per student, the public board's transportation deficit was less than half the one being faced this year.

The CBE has said it operates its transportation system on a cost-recovery basis, meaning

50%

The new NDP government has pledged to cut school fees in half, but it's unclear how quickly a push to do so could come.

families are only asked to cover the gap between provincial funding and total operational costs. In plain terms, the board claims families paying busing fees aren't compensating other parts of the education system.

There is also the potential for service changes and reductions, as it costs the board about \$55,000 for each bus it utilizes over the course of a school year. The CBE does keep excess transportation

funding in a reserve that can also be applied to close future shortfalls.

Unruh said a major challenge is families registering late for bus service. As such, the CBE is introducing an online charter transportation registration process.

"It's like planning a dinner party," she said. "I have a rough estimate of how many people are coming, but I don't know what the budget is yet for this party. Until the budget is released, it's premature to say any comments regarding fees or any changes to our service delivery model." JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

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POLICE

Overseas law enforcement make up 8 to 10% of CPS



Morgan Modjeski
Metro|Calgary

When Const. Garry Woods joined the Calgary Police Service in 2008, he left behind a very different life.

While many officers who came to the Calgary police from across the pond were recruited by the service during an overseas hiring push between 2006 and 2008, Woods joined through the normal channels.

Travelling from Belfast to Calgary roughly seven years ago, Woods is now a constable within the CPS community and youth services unit.

While the transition has had its challenges, Woods said the switch allowed him to pursue the type of police work he felt was important, as violent conflict in Belfast was an ever-present factor.

"What I like is the fact that I'm able to do the real job of policing, which for me is talking and listening to people ... people who are in trouble and need some help," he said. "I can do that real job



Const. Garry Woods with the Calgary Police Service's youth and community services section can be seen on the CPS Westwinds campus on Thursday afternoon. He says moving to Calgary from Belfast in Northern Ireland in 2008 allowed him to focus on the type of police work he feels is important. MORGAN MODJESKI / METRO



What I like is the fact that I'm able to do the real job of policing, which for me is talking and listening to people.

CPS Const. Garry Woods

without having to worry, to the same extent, that some-

body may be trying to kill me. That's the reality."

Calgary's diverse population and its ability to co-exist is part of what drew him to the city, Woods added.

Now, as the community liaison for the city's Latin American and Caribbean communities, he considers Calgary his home, and he's not alone.

+ ATTRACTION

A quality opportunity to make a new life

Insp. Mike Worden with the CPS human resources operations section said he feels it's a combination of Calgary's high quality of life and the service's reputation as a law enforcement agency that attracts officers to the service from across Canada and around the globe.

Currently, up to 180 police officers who came from other countries are serving with the CPS.

Recruited during the hiring push, Acting Det. Martin Taylor, who travelled to Canada from Yorkshire, England in 2009, said the CPS offered a new set of opportunities.

"[It was] probably more to do with family life than the job itself," he said. "I felt that by coming here, I've got a family and I felt my kids would be provided better opportunities long-term than if we remained in the U.K."

He added: "I enjoy the life here and I enjoy the job, so I have no desire to go back."

Even now, almost 10 years after the original hiring push, the CPS still gets an occasional officer from overseas inquiring about how they can join the service.

POLITICS

Destroying records is an offence: Privacy boss

As the transition to a new regime unfolds in Alberta, the province's privacy commissioner is reminding politicians and the public about the rules regarding shredding government records.

In a news release issued Thursday, Commissioner Jill Clayton says it is a criminal offence to "wilfully destroy records to evade access requests." Such a breach could lead to a fine of up to \$10,000.

Clayton says she has the power to conduct an investigation if laws related to the destruction of records are not being followed.

A lot of incumbents, including several former ministers in the Tory government of Jim Prentice, are cleaning out their desks this week to make room for the new NDP majority government.

Clayton says legislation requires government ministers to develop a records management program establishing rules for the retention, destruction or archiving of public records, which employees must adhere to.

"These rules apply and must be followed during the government's transition period," Clayton said in the release. "If there is evidence that the rules are not being followed, a complaint can be submitted to my office."

However, she notes the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act does not apply to records of the office of the Speaker, records of the offices of an MLA, or personal or constituency records of a cabinet minister. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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IN BRIEF

Official election results to be released on May 15

Elections Alberta is to release the official results of the provincial election on May 15, including the outcome of the race in Calgary Glenmore that ended in an unofficial tie.

Drew Westwater, Elections Alberta spokesman, says returning officers are conducting the official count of ballots in all 87 constituencies.

He says the official count is standard in Alberta and is used to confirm the results that were announced Tuesday night.

Westwater says Elections Alberta will automatically apply to the court for a judicial recount if there is still a tie in Calgary Glenmore after the numbers are verified.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NDP victory boosts pipeline fighters' hopes

Nebraska pipeline-fighter Jane Kleeb and her allies celebrated the end of decades of conservative governance and the first-ever NDP win in Alberta history.

"I'm very excited," Kleeb said Thursday. Her reason for optimism: the Obama administration might see these results and find political cover to reject Keystone XL.

"Now we can say, look, people in Alberta, the home of where the carbon-intensive oil is, clearly have sent a message to their government. So what's your message to us?" THE CANADIAN PRESS

Students hope NDP win signals new era

EDUCATION

Notley pledges to kill tuition hikes, even end inflation growth



Jeremy Nolais
Metro | Calgary

For months, students had feared the tuition floodgates would be thrown open. Now, the province's new premier-elect has pledged to lock them up tighter than ever.

"Potentially, it's a new era," said Levi Nilson, president of the University of Calgary Students' Union, regarding the election of the NDP and Leader Rachel Notley.

"If the NDP can stick to their platform, we've got a very student-friendly post-secondary system on our hands," he said. "It's going to be very exciting."

Just days before Christmas, the now-ousted Tory government approved so-called market-modifier tuition hikes for 25 programs at schools across the province. All told, the increases would require students to fork over an additional \$21 million annually.

Notley, however, has said she would reverse those changes.

As well, in the March budget, the Tories announced

a cut to Campus Alberta grants to the tune of 1.4 per cent but warned more work remained to make the sector sustainable. There were whispers in the ministry of loosening the tuition cap, currently tied to the rate of inflation.

Students also noticed that the province boosted available student-loan dollars by 42 per cent, all the while cutting into available bursaries. The fear was the move was a precursor to digging deeper into their pockets.



In a perfect world, we would reduce tuition.

Premier-elect Rachel Notley

Notley, however, has pledged to not only kill talk of tuition increases in the future but would even remove annual inflation growth. During her campaign, she told Metro in a sit-down interview that, over time, the initiative would allow more students to continue on with their education after high school.

"We've raised the bar a little bit there," she said of her "actual" tuition freeze. "In a perfect world, we would reduce tuition to increase accessibility. We can't afford to do that."

At the U of C specifically, budgeting work was underway



Levi Nilson, president of the University of Calgary Students' Union, says the NDP's platform is "student-friendly." METRO FILE

on the assumption that the institution would see tuition hikes in its engineering, law and graduate business administration programs.

The university declined a request for an interview after Notley's election this week but

issued a statement congratulating her.

"We welcome the opportunity to work with the government to further enhance post-secondary education in the province," said school president Elizabeth Cannon.

FLOOR CROSSING

Smith was naive, she admits

Former Wildrose leader Danielle Smith says she now realizes she was very naive when she crossed the floor and says that she was sold a bill of goods by former premier Jim Prentice.

Smith says when she and 10 other Wildrose MLAs almost collapsed their caucus by joining Prentice and the Progressive Conservatives in December, it was because they thought Prentice was fiscally conservative.

The Wildrose Party came back in Tuesday's election with a vengeance, winning 21 seats, capitalizing on the PC party's capitulation across the province.

She told the Roger Kingkade and Rob Breakenridge show on News Talk 770 that she later privately complained to Prentice when he brought in a budget that hiked taxes and held the line on spending.

She says she told Prentice the budget wouldn't fly and that the document helped his opponents during the election.

Smith also says she originally tried to convince Prentice not to run for the PC leadership, saying she thought his party was too scandal-ridden to win.

Smith ran for the Progressive Conservatives but lost the nomination for her riding in Highwood to Carrie Fischer in March.

Fischer didn't win the riding in Tuesday's election, losing to Wildrose candidate Wayne Anderson.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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EARTHQUAKE

Bar staff to raise money for Nepal

Staff at Brasserie Kensington were relieved to hear their boss had made it safely out of Nepal after being stranded in the mountains by the recent earthquake. Now they hope to translate his experience — and cachet — into support for those most directly affected by the disaster.

As Metro reported in late April, bar owner Cam Dobranski and his new wife Jacq ended up trapped while on a hiking honeymoon when the earthquake struck just days after they got married in Nepal.

Their situation “weighed heavily” on staff at the bar, said office manager Toni Younker, who was happy to hear the couple later made it to safety in India and eventually back to Canada.

“We’re a really, really tight-knit company here,” she said. “Everyone’s like family.”

The personal connection also brought the tragedy into sharp focus for employees, Younker added, and now they’re planning to play off “the cult following that Cam and Jacq have” locally to help raise funds for the reconstruction effort in Nepal.

A fundraising event is set for



Toni Younker METRO

May 14 at Container Bar, the alleyway patio next to Brasserie, which Younker said will go on rain or shine.

She said proceeds from a silent auction, some drink sales and a raffle for a \$6,000 travel voucher will be donated to Uphill Both Ways, a relief and development organization dedicated to building schools and health-care centres in remote areas of Nepal.

Cam and Jacq aren’t expected to be at the fundraiser, Younker noted, as they’re still going to be out of town, trying to enjoy a little relaxation on their honeymoon.

ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

Notley dispels myths



Mike Morrison
Metro | Calgary

I still remember groaning when the first season of the *Amazing Race* Canada came through Calgary and the racers were forced to drive pickup trucks and learn to line dance at Ranchman’s.

It’s a stereotype that anyone that’s lived in Calgary has been dealing with forever. But as I’m sure you’ve heard, Alberta is changing. And Tuesday night’s provincial election pretty much proved that.

But first, let’s go back a bit. Ever since Naheed Nenshi was voted in as mayor back in 2010, the face of the place we call home has been changing. Or, better yet, evolving. It’s not consistent enough that you can bet on it, but every now and then the next generation of Albertans take the lead with spectacular results.

For a lot of people, Mayor Nenshi changed the perception of Calgary. He didn’t necessarily represent what Canadians thought about Calgary, but in my mind he



Alberta’s Premier-elect Rachel Notley, seen here celebrating her election win Tuesday, is one of a crop of new provincial politicians dispelling Alberta stereotypes.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

represented what Calgarians thought of Calgary.

And while he’s done a lot of good for the city, what he’s done for people’s perception of Calgary is immeasurable. Any time he travels, I get a message or tweet from someone who ran into him. Do you think that happens to John Tory or Denis Coderre, the mayors of Canada’s two largest cities, respectively? Mayor

Nenshi is a unique Canadian celebrity and when people associate him with Calgary, that’s good for us.

And now Rachel Notley will try to do the same thing. In the age of social media posts, getting a photo with her will become a priority for everyday people who, before, were never interested in politics. I’m not sure anyone was lining up to get photos with

Jim Prentice — well, at least not anyone that wasn’t hoping to be a PC MLA someday.

Notley, Nenshi and even Edmonton’s mayor Don Iveson all represent the new kind of politician. Not one that’s been in training for years to be a politician, but one that worked in the real world and saw the real problems. On the federal level, watch for Justin Trudeau to go for that “I’m just a regular guy” angle, too, even though we know it’s not true.

Sure there’s still signs of “old Alberta.” Here in Calgary, the conservative values of councillors like Ward Sutherland, Sean Chu and Joe Magliocca might not always make sense to me, but I do believe that they truly are representing the values of their supporters.

Even as someone who tends to lean left, I don’t think it’s good for one side to have all the power and control for too long. But after 10 years living in Calgary, it’s nice to have a taste of someone else behind the wheel of our great province.

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SOCIAL MEDIA FAD

Public cautioned about Game of 72

Calgary police are warning the public about a social media fad one social media expert called "horrifying."

Game of 72 is an online challenge where youth are dared to vanish for a total of 72 hours.

Karen Richards, a social media instructor at Mount Royal University, said it's one of the most disturbing trends she's seen.

"These games seem to be

the latest in a number of online challenges or dares that kids can send to each other," she said.

While dares can be seen as natural behaviour for some youth, social media magnifies the impact as they "can connect with thousands of kids across the world."

"It just makes it that much more easy to have these ideas spread quickly," she said.

Social media can also make it appear a challenge is popular, when in reality it's very rare. However, the illusion may be persuasive to vulnerable youth.

Earlier this week, the Vancouver police issued a warning to the public about Game of 72, and now the CPS is cautioning parents as well.

"We haven't seen any cases that we're aware of," said Sgt. John Hebert, who heads the

CPS's missing person unit. "But when somebody goes missing it creates great angst ... within the person's family circles and that's where the concern really lies."

Both CPS and Richards said the best way for parents to address the issue is to talk with their kids about proper social media use and to keep a close watch on their online activity.

MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO



A photo of the mess left behind in Star King's home after an Airbnb guest stayed there for three days. CONTRIBUTED

Police seek witnesses from party

AIRBNB

Homeowner of trashed rental asks parties to come forward



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

Calgary police are hoping to talk to the guests of an Airbnb host's party that racked up \$150,000 in property damage.

"We're devastated," said homeowner Star King. "I'm sure they don't much care, but I would want those people that were in our home to know they literally sabotaged my family's world because our home was our safe place."

Over the weekend of April 24, police were called to a residence in the 100 block of Sage Valley Drive northwest several times for noise complaints.

The homeowners arrived around noon the day after the party and asked the short-term renter to leave.

Authorities are now asking anyone who was in the home over the weekend to come forward and provide information on who may have been responsible for the damage.

"At this point we don't know

exactly when the property damage has occurred," said Const. Atilla Horvath, the investigator for the case.

"I don't believe everybody at that party was involved in damaging the house, but we'd like to speak to as many people as we can."

Police haven't been able to locate the man who rented the house via the online service, but say he is known to police and has ties in both Calgary and Edmonton.

"At this point we don't know where he is," Horvath said. "We believe he is still in Calgary, we just don't know where."

The suspect is now on the hook for potential mischief and property damage charges, but could also be dealing with fraud charges.

Police said the homeowners have identified the man from a photo lineup and officers have CCTV footage with the suspect, but they are waiting for more information before laying charges.

King said she would be proud of anyone coming forward, adding she spoke personally to a few women who attended the party and got the impression they didn't really know everyone in attendance.

"It's not like they're hiding a friend, or covering up for a friend," she said.

WITH FILES FROM MORGAN MODJESKI

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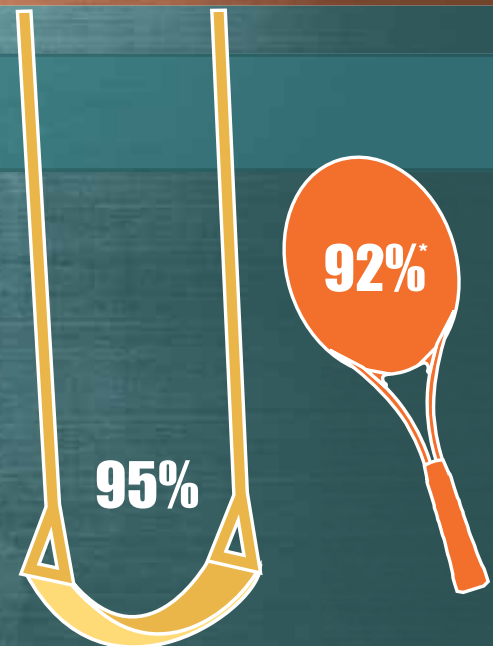
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*All stats from the 2014 Citizen Satisfaction Survey, prepared for the City of Calgary.

The long journey toward equal rights

CALGARY PRIDE

Parade celebrates a new dawn after 25 years



Jennifer Friesen
For Metro | Calgary

With their faces shielded by Lone Ranger masks and paper bags to hide their identities, 150 Calgarians took to the streets for the first time in 1990, demanding equal rights.

It was the first Pride Parade in Calgary, and leading the way was Nancy Miller, one of the original organizers.

"Twenty-five years ago, because of who we loved, Albertans could lose their jobs and be evicted from their homes," she said. "We just wanted to work, love and live like other Albertans."

At the crack of dawn on Thursday morning, Miller joined members of Pride Calgary in East Vil-

lage to announce that for the Pride Parade's 25th anniversary, Brian Burke, Calgary Flames president of operations, would be this year's grand marshal.

City councillor Evan Woolley attended the event, announcing that he will march alongside Pride Calgary in the parade this year. With the Langevin Bridge behind him, lit with all the colours of the rainbow, Woolley talked about how he grew up in a same-sex family, and said his mothers were "only able to sell their relationship" as if they were two single women who were making it work for the sake of economics.

"They did that to protect their children and to protect their work," he said. "So I know, in a special way, that coming together helps that diversity incredibly. It's important for us to provide support for those in our community who are grappling with issues of sexual orientation or gender identity — it tells young people that it's OK to love whoever it is that you would like to love."

According to Woolley, Pride

“

We just wanted to work, love and live like other Albertans.

Nancy Miller

Calgary is one of the fastest-growing pride festivals in the country. Since 2009, attendance grew from 5,000 to 50,000, with 60,000 people expected to attend this September. With such high volumes, the parade has "finally outgrown Stephen Avenue," said Stephen Wright, President of Pride Calgary's planning committee. This year the parade on September 6 will run down 9 Avenue, from 1 Street SW to Shaw Millennium Park.

"I'm really proud of us as Albertans, as a province," said Miller. "We have come a long way from where we were 25 years ago, and I know if we keep plugging away at it, we will achieve true equality and true safety for all Albertans."



Nancy Miller, one of the original organizers of the Calgary Pride Parade, said that while she's proud to see how far Calgary has come in LGBTQ rights, "we still have many more goals left to achieve." JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO


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Shelters struggle to help

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Turn-away rates on the rise due to longer stays



Anna Brooks
Metro | Calgary

Hearing that the number of women and children served at emergency shelters in Calgary has gone down in the past year might sound like a good thing.

But Elsbeth Mehrer, director of external relations at the YWCA of Calgary, said the opposite is true.

"What it means is women are staying longer," Mehrer explained. "The length of stay is going up because there's nowhere to go."

Mehrer said because of the affordable housing dilemma in Calgary, emergency women's shelters across Calgary are seeing higher turn-away rates and creating a lot of frustration for front-line staff.

"It's a real challenge," she



Kim Ruse, executive director at the Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter, said 2015 has seen a jump in the number of crisis calls received and in the length of average stays. ANNA BROOKS/METRO

said. "As much as they're an important part of the system, shelters are not a stable place long-term."

Kim Ruse, executive director at the Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter (CWES), said average stays at CWES of around 21 days have jumped up to 30 days.



The length of stay is going up because there's nowhere to go.

Elsbeth Mehrer

"It might not sound like a lot, but it actually is," Ruse said. "It impacts how many women and children we can serve throughout the year."

Compounding the issue of longer-term shelter occupants, the number of crisis calls to CWES has increased significantly

over the past year. In 2013-14, CWES received close to 9,000 calls while 2014-15 saw more than 11,000 calls.

Ruse said although CWES uses a case management program that provides housing location and placement for families, in 2013 they were only able to refer 10 per cent of families in need.

"They just don't have the capacity to take many of our families," Ruse said. "And that also stretches our internal resources significantly because our staff are then trying to locate housing for clients instead of focusing on work in the shelter."

In a recent survey of 231 shelters across Canada, the Canadian Network of Women's Shelters & Transition Houses showed 122 new women and 81 children were taken in while 302 new women and 221 children were turned away.

"If we can't support people to move on, then what's the alternative?" YWCA's Mehrer said. "For women who are making decisions about whether they can leave a dangerous or unhealthy relationship, the fear of homelessness shouldn't be what forces them to stay."

IN BRIEF

Police clear man mistaken for a child stalker

Calgary police have cleared a man, believed to be a child stalker, from any wrongdoing after discovering he was a parent dropping his child off at school.

On Wednesday, a girl told one of her teachers a truck had suspiciously parked at Suncrest Way and Suncastle Drive six times in the last two weeks — she feared the man was watching her walk to school.

After a release on the incident, the truck owner contacted police and explained he was taking his child to school. METRO

Man in custody after officer hit by truck

A 55-year-old man is in custody after a police officer was hit by a fleeing truck.

Police say they tried to stop a Ford F-350 in Medicine Hat early Thursday. The truck drove off, but later stopped and reversed, hitting a police officer.

The injured officer was in hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

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Zoo's bear cubs make a new friend

ANIMALS

Orphaned bear siblings from Yukon join blended family



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

The young cubs at the Calgary Zoo have emerged from their slumber, and the cuteness is bear-ly legal.

Sibling orphans, Teslin and Orson, are settling into their new quarters nicely after being rescued from their original home in the Yukon.

They have now joined Manuka in the black bear habitat in the Canadian Wilds area of the zoo.

"They came in last year," said Mike Teller, curator at the Calgary Zoo. "They're doing

very good together and playing together and it's working out very well as a nice family."

The siblings come to the zoo as orphans after their mother was mistakenly put down by conservation officers. She had been removed from an area in the Yukon, but returned to that community to feed on garbage.

"They didn't realize that she had cubs," said Teller. "Then they found the cubs and went to find a home for the cubs."

Teller added although the timing was right for the zoo — Manuka had recently lost her partner to old age — the incident is a testament to being aware and cautious of waste in bear communities.

"Once bears find garbage, they'll keep coming back, and it's not safe then for people to have black bears around," said Teller. "Conservation officers usually have no other choice but to destroy the bear."



Teslin, left, and Orson play at the Calgary Zoo. HELEN PIKE/METRO

POLITICS

Petitions crop up to boot Calgary MLA

A day after Calgary-Bow MLA Deborah Drever came under fire for her questionable Facebook profile page critics are calling for her resignation through a series of online petitions.

Drever stripped the web of any public social media presence early Wednesday after coming under fire for several posts — one including a hand gesturing at the Canadian flag with the middle finger extended — but

the public outrage is pushing back.

Three separate online petitions were created asking the student in the social work program at Mount Royal University now turned MLA to step down and make way for a "more qualified" candidate. One petition on change.org already has over 700 signatures.

700

Number of signatures on one of three online petitions calling on Calgary-Bow MLA Deborah Drever to resign

METRO



IN BRIEF

Shania Twain heading to Calgary for back-to-back performances come fall

Calgary will now be hosting legendary country star Shania Twain at the Scotiabank Saddledome after Twain originally bypassed Calgary and for two shows in Edmonton instead.

With an overwhelming

demand to see Twain live on stage, Calgary is hosting the singer for back-to-back performances Sept. 17 and 18.

After spending two years in a residency at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, Twain is heading out on tour across North America for the first time in more than a decade.

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Demonstrators march toward Calgary city hall Thursday, calling on the city — or anyone — to keep their beloved Golden Age Club from closing. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

Fight to keep the Golden Age Club

FUNDING

100 protesters marched on city hall



Angry about the loss of their beloved Golden Age Club and fearful of a perceived plot to push them out of East Village as it turns into a community for “yuppies,” dozens of senior citizens marched on city hall Thursday. “Save our club! Save our club!” the crowd of 100 people chanted. Several protesters confronted Coun. Druh Farrell as she spoke to reporters about the situation facing the privately run, but publicly subsidized, facility that has existed in Calgary since 1951, and in its East Village location since 1984.

Farrell said the protestors’ anger is largely misplaced as the city isn’t responsible for the facility or its current woes.

Many protestors were upset that the city cut funding to the club’s operations, but Farrell said the decision was made after a review found the organization wasn’t financially “stable.”

“This is a private club that’s providing an essential service,” she said. “They received a small portion of their funding from the city. But the financial situation that both the building and the Golden Age Club have found themselves in, it’s just not viable.”

Demonstrator Bernie Taylor said it was “devastating” to learn last Friday at the club’s annual general meeting that the facility was set to close at the end of May.

A meeting between city officials and the East Village Neighbourhood Association is set for Friday to discuss short-term and long-term options, but numerous area seniors said they feel shut out of the process.

Several protestors said they feel the rapidly redeveloping East

Village is being taken over by “yuppies.” Protesters said many would like to see the long-time, low-income senior citizens who live in the area simply disappear.

But Farrell said that’s simply not the case.

“We are stepping in and trying to help,” she said of the city’s efforts. “Even though it’s not our responsibility, technically, I feel responsible for the seniors in East Village so we’re trying to find a solution for them.”

“We were just tossed out ... That’s wrong.”
 Bernie Taylor

ROCKY MOUNTAINS

Mountie says more enforcement needed of ATVs in backcountry

A veteran Mountie says more enforcement of off-highway vehicles is needed in Alberta’s backcountry.

Cpl. Wayne Howse says police who patrol public lands along the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains are dealing with more cases of people driving through stream beds causing environmental damage.

Howse says people are carrying loaded weapons on ATVs, some are driving impaired and others leave mounds of garbage

in the wilderness.

There are also cases of illegal poaching and people randomly shooting firearms. Howse’s comments follow a ruling by a judge in Rocky Mountain House, who fined two off-highway vehicle drivers \$1,500 each for riding in the Clearwater River.

The Alberta Wilderness Association applauded the fines. Sean Nichols, an association spokesman, said the AWA hopes the fines send a message to the public.

+ PROPOSAL

Howse says the RCMP is considering a proposal to form a unit that would focus more on such activity.

“This precedent-setting decision sends a clear signal that the public will not tolerate this kind of wanton destruction of our headwaters,” Nichols said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



The City of Calgary is launching a lane reversal pilot project May 19 with the aim of alleviating afternoon traffic on 5 Avenue SW between 7 Street and 11 Street SW.

COURTESY CITY OF CALGARY

City decides on change of direction

TRAFFIC

Lane reversal aims to ease rush hour congestion



Anna Brooks
Metro | Calgary

Downtown commuters may see some rush-hour relief this summer with the City of Calgary's new lane reversal project on 5 Avenue SW.

Pat Grisak, senior leader of the city's traffic division, said the estimated \$600,000 pilot project attempts to alleviate westbound traffic on 4 and 6 Avenues by reversing the two northernmost lanes on 5 Avenue SW between 7 Street and 11 Street SW.

Grisak said on an average afternoon 3,500 vehicles an hour are packing onto 4 and 6 Avenues during peak afternoon hours.

"Both fourth and sixth avenues are very busy, and during the afternoon peak period there's very little traffic volume

on the western section of fifth Avenue," Grisak said. "Reversing the traffic flow would accommodate the westbound flow and provide another outbound route for motorists."

Transforming the five lanes going one-way on 5 Avenue to two westbound lanes and three eastbound lanes, Grisak said he expects the pilot project to reduce traffic delays by about 15 per cent.

Grisak said with the lane reversal project coinciding with the four-car train LRT project, motorists might see clogs along certain areas of 4 and 6 Avenue.

If the 6-month pilot project is successful, Grisak said Calgarians could expect to see the lane reversal structure as a permanent feature of 5 Avenue.

"We have every reason to believe it will be successful," Grisak said. "By implementing these types of lane reversal systems, we can optimize the existing infrastructure and provide some relief to those very busy roads."

The lane reversal, launching May 19, will be operational on weekdays between 3:30 and 6:30 p.m. To see how the traffic lane reversal will work, please see a full animation of the project at calgary.ca/5ave

COUNTRY MUSIC

Nashville North going bigger, better, longer

Nashville North fans can expect to see a number of big changes to one of the Calgary Stampede's most popular music venues.

On top of hosting big name country music artists like Corb Lund, Jason Blaine and John Michael Montgomery, Nashville North has expanded its capacity with an additional patio and a new Stoli Lounge.

Karen Connellan, director

of programming, said with the ongoing popularity of Nashville North, the Stampede team tried hard to develop a diverse list of both local and international country music artists as well as a larger, more comfortable space for guests.

"For 30 years, Nashville North has been a destination for many Stampede goers," Connellan said.

"We want to showcase this

great venue, and we're making Nashville North bigger and better than it's ever been."

On top of extending hours this year, Nashville North's new Stoli Lounge also has a VIP area with the capacity for up to 100 guests and includes private catering options and executive washrooms.

Roderick Tate, Calgary Stampede entertainment manager, said that despite the extra

space and longer hours, they expect to see Nashville North's infamous long line-ups again this year.

"Some of our guests would even believe that the line-up is part of the experience and part of the fun of why they come down," Tate said.

For more on the artists performing at Nashville North, visit metronews.ca

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New measures mean passports crackdown

TERRORISM

Changes allow authorities to cancel, revoke documents

Ottawa says it is introducing passport measures to prevent people they call would-be terrorists and sex offenders from travelling abroad.

The changes would allow authorities to cancel, revoke or refuse passports for national security or terrorism purposes.

Public Safety Minister Steven Blaney and Citizenship Minis-

ter Chris Alexander made the announcement on Thursday at Montreal's Pierre Elliott Trudeau International Airport.

The measures were included in the Conservatives' budget bill, which was introduced Thursday.

Blaney and Alexander also said people who have their passports revoked or cancelled will have to wait 10 years before applying for another.

The ministers added that the changes would allow Federal Court justices who preside over passport proceedings to protect information from being disclosed but to be able to use that information in reaching their decisions.

Alexander said the government is sending a "very strong message."

"We won't allow the Canadian passport to be used as a tool by terrorists to carry out unspeakable acts of violence, criminal acts, and Canada will not tolerate this type of behaviour," he told a news conference at the airport.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Public Safety Minister Steven Blaney, right, speaks at an announcement on Canada's national security as Federal Immigration Minister Chris Alexander looks on in Montreal, Thursday. RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST ALLEGATIONS

PQ leadership looms over Quebecor

The shadow of Quebecor Inc.'s controlling shareholder loomed large over the company's annual meeting Thursday despite efforts of board members to distance themselves from the man who will likely become leader of the Parti Quebecois.

Pierre Karl Peladeau, who owns the majority of voting shares in Quebecor, hasn't been involved in the governance of the company for "months and months," said Pierre Dion, president and CEO of the media conglomerate.

Since being elected to the

legislature last year, Peladeau and Quebecor have been dogged by conflict-of-interest allegations, while calls for him to divest his shares have increased ever since he launched his bid for the PQ leadership.

"I don't remember the last time I met with Pierre Karl," Dion told reporters after the meeting. "Mr. Peladeau is not involved in the day-to-day operations of this organization."

Peladeau maintains he is willing to put his Quebecor shares in a blind trust.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Key bomb chemicals not found in cottage: Report

Police should have informed the public they knew a stockpile of chemicals that led to evacuations in two cities lacked key bomb ingredients, says a defence lawyer representing the man arrested in the high-profile case.

Mike Taylor was referring Thursday to one of several court exhibits released in the

case of 42-year-old Christopher Phillips, who has been charged with uttering threats and possessing a weapon: the hazardous chemical osmium tetroxide.

Forensics expert Melanie Brochu wrote that chemicals police found in Phillips' cottage in Grand Desert didn't include the ingredients needed for homemade explosives.

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Khadr asks for public trust

'GUANTANAMO'S CHILD'

Ex-prisoner speaks after release on bail

After spending more than a decade in prison, Omar Khadr says he'll show Canadians — and Prime Minister Stephen Harper — that he's worthy of their trust.

Speaking publicly for the first time since his release on bail, the former Guantanamo Bay inmate thanked Canadians on Thursday for giving him a chance.

"I will prove to them that I'm more than what they thought of me, I'll prove to them that I'm a good person," he said outside his lawyer's home.

"Give me a chance, see who I am as a person not as a name, and then they can make their own judgment after that."

With a few words, an Alberta justice on Thursday paved the way for Khadr to get his first taste of freedom in almost 13 years.

Appeal Court Justice Myra Bielby rejected the government's last-ditch attempt to block his bail. The government, she said,



Omar Khadr, right, walks out of court Thursday with his lawyer Dennis Edney in Edmonton.

HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

had failed to prove his release would cause serious harm to Canadian interests or pose a risk to the public.

"Mr. Khadr, you're free to go," Bielby said Thursday.

Khadr's longtime lawyer Dennis Edney walked over to his

client and whispered, "We done it." Edney's wife, Patricia sobbed uncontrollably for a few minutes, then hugged and kissed her husband.

Outside court, an emotional Edney said the day had been a long time coming as he talked

about his client's ordeal since the Americans captured him grievously wounded in Afghanistan in July 2002, when he was 15 years old.

The government, which has consistently branded Khadr an unrepentant terrorist and said

it would fight his release every step of the way, expressed disappointment.

As paperwork was prepared for Khadr's release, which comes with a list of restrictions including wearing a tracking bracelet and a curfew, an emotional Edney stepped outside to denounce a federal government under Prime Minister Stephen Harper for showing no mercy.

Khadr, who had no immediate comment, pleaded guilty in October 2010 before a widely discredited military commission to five war crimes — including murder in the death of a U.S. special forces soldier. In exchange, the commission handed him a further eight-year sentence.

Dubbed "Guantanamo's Child," he was the youngest inmate and lone westerner left in the naval prison at the time. He remains the only person convicted of murder for the battlefield death of an American soldier in Afghanistan.

Khadr returned to Canada from Guantanamo Bay, where he had been held for a decade, in 2012 under an international transfer treaty, and later said he had only pleaded guilty to get out of the prison. THE CANADIAN PRESS

+ SUPPORT

Professors helped with education

For the last 12 years, in between interrogation sessions and working in prison factories, Omar Khadr has been trying to learn beyond his Grade 8 education.

Khadr, now 28, has always known the day would come when he would finally leave prison and have to adjust to everyday life. While governments, circumstance and his parents, each in their own way, have failed Khadr, strangers have stepped into the void to help educate him.

Nine Alberta university professors, most of them from The King's University in suburban Edmonton, spent years visiting Khadr in prison, and tutoring him.

Since Khadr was transferred to Alberta in May 2013, the professors worked with him at least once a week. Then there are those who offered Khadr a schooling of another kind — not in books but in the benefits of socializing. Seven women from various countries even started the online campaign Free Omar Khadr Now.

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Exit poll sees strong showing for Tories

U.K. ELECTION

About 50M registered to vote

British voters streamed to schools, churches and pubs Thursday for a say in their country's future, voting for lawmakers in an election expected to produce no clear victor and lead to days of frantic haggling for power.

Prime Minister David Cameron's Conservative Party fared much better than expected, an exit poll projected, suggesting it is within touching distance of forming a new government.

The opposition Labour Party of Ed Miliband took a beating, according to the poll, much of it due to the rise of the separatist Scottish National Party.

Cameron's coalition partner,

the Liberal Democrat Party, was expected to lose most of its seats.

If no party wins outright, it may take days or weeks of negotiation to forge a workable government.

The carefully stage-managed campaign lacked impromptu drama. But television debate appearances in which the public put questions directly to the politicians made plain that many distrust promises to safeguard the economy, protect the National Health Service from severe cutbacks and control the number of migrants from the European Union.

Voters were making their voices heard all across this island nation of 64 million people. And signs of the unfolding political drama abounded. The squares opposite Parliament were packed with temporary outdoor television studios, while

+ UPDATES

The exit poll's prediction of 316 Conservative seats — up from 302 and far more than predicted — was proving accurate as the results came in. The numbers for Labour placed them in second. The Liberal Democrats were rapidly losing seats and coalition government ministers, but the Scottish nationalists were on track to win all, or almost all, of Scotland's 59 seats.

commuters picked up newspapers urging voters to the polls.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

+ LATEST RESULTS,
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U.K. Labour Party Parliamentary candidate for Aberavon, Stephen Kinnock stands with his wife, Prime Minister of Denmark Helle Thorning-Schmidt during the counting in Britain's election at Neath Sports Centre in Neath, Wales Thursday. JOE GIDDENS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANCE

Court says phone-tapping of ex-president, lawyer was legal

The Paris appeals court ruled Thursday that investigating judges didn't break any laws when they tapped conversations between former President Nicolas Sarkozy and his lawyer, in connection with a probe into past campaign financing.

The decision Thursday is a new blow to the conservative opposition leader as he eyes a 2017 presidential bid, because it allows investigations to resume.

Sarkozy is under preliminary charges for active corruption and influence-peddling based on

information gleaned from the phone taps. It's among several legal cases he has faced since losing the presidency to Francois Hollande in 2012 — but it's the case that has the greatest chances of seeing Sarkozy sent to trial.

Sarkozy and his lawyer Thierry Herzog had protested the phone taps, saying they breached lawyer-client privilege and that the investigating judges didn't get proper authorization.

But the appeals court ruled in favour of investigators, according to Herzog's lawyer, Paul-Albert

Iweins. The court found that wiretapping on different phone lines used by Sarkozy under his own name and under the false identity of "Paul Bismuth" had been legally carried out, except for one minor phone line.

Lawyers said Sarkozy and Herzog would appeal to France's top court, the Cour de Cassation. "The fight for the confidentiality of communications between a lawyer and client is not just Thierry Herzog's fight, it is the fight of all lawyers," Iweins said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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OKLAHOMA FLASH FLOODS, TORNADOES DESTROY HOMES, INJURE AT LEAST 12 Yuki Fukui in his RV which was knocked onto its side during Wednesday's severe storms that tore through Oklahoma City. Gov. Mary Fallin has declared a state of emergency in 12 Oklahoma counties. Also hit were parts of Texas, Kansas and Nebraska. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Collecting records was illegal: Court

UNITED STATES

Congress must balance privacy with security

The unprecedented and unwarranted bulk collection of Americans' phone records by the government is illegal because it wasn't authorized by Congress, a federal appeals court said Thursday as it asked legislators to decide how to balance national security and privacy interests.

The National Security Agency's collection and storage of U.S. landline calling records — times, dates and numbers but not content of the calls — was the most controversial program among many disclosed in 2013 by former NSA systems administrator Edward Snowden. Some NSA officials opposed the program, and independent evaluations have found it of limited value as a counterterrorism tool. Snowden remains exiled in Russia.

On Thursday, a three-judge panel of a Court of Appeals in Manhattan permitted the NSA to continue temporarily

as it exists, but all but pleaded for Congress to better define where boundaries exist.

"In light of the asserted national security interests at stake, we deem it prudent to pause to allow an opportunity for debate in Congress that may (or may not) profoundly alter the legal landscape," said the opinion written by Judge Gerald Lynch.

A lower court judge in December tossed out an American Civil Liberties Union lawsuit, saying the program was a necessary extension to security taken after the 2001 terror attacks. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Steel spikes to be added to White House fence

The U.S. Secret Service is adding a second layer of steel spikes to the top of the White House fence to keep would-be intruders at bay, according to a proposal approved Thursday by the National Capitol Planning Commission. The steel pencil point spikes will be snapped into place at the top of the fence and protrude outward, according to a diagram included in the proposal by the Secret Service. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NUCLEAR TALKS

U.S. Senate passes bill on Iran deal

The U.S. Senate muscled its way into President Barack Obama's talks to curb Iran's nuclear program, overwhelmingly backing legislation Thursday that would let Congress review and possibly reject any final deal with Tehran.

The vote was 98-1 for the bipartisan bill that would give Congress a say on what could be a historic accord that the United States and five other nations are trying to finalize with Iran. Under the agree-

ment, Iran would roll back its nuclear program in exchange for relief from crippling economy penalties.

The lone no vote came from Sen. Tom Cotton, a Republican who wants the administration to submit any agreement to the Senate as a treaty. That would require approval of two-thirds of the Senate. The House is expected to vote next week on the measure.

The talks resume next week in Vienna. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Facebook exec faces new work-life crisis over death

CAREERS

Loss of partner raises question of how soon to return to work

What happened to Sheryl Sandberg could happen to anyone: the woman who wrote the book on balancing career and family will have to figure out how soon she will return to her high-profile job following the unexpected death of her husband.

In the book *Lean In*, the Facebook chief operating officer wrote that marriage is "the biggest career decision" a person can make and implored women who want to move up the corporate ladder to settle with someone who wants to do his share in the home.

Now, Sandberg faces the prospect of raising two young children and continuing in a high-flying tech career without David Goldberg, her husband of 11 years who she often credits with providing the support that was necessary for her to succeed both personally and professionally.



Facebook COO Sheryl Sandberg with her late husband, David Goldberg, in a 2011 file photo. Goldberg died while exercising at a Mexican vacation resort on Friday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

"Dave was my rock," Sandberg wrote in a Facebook tribute Tuesday after the funeral of David Goldberg, who died in a treadmill accident while vacationing in Mexico. "When I got upset, he stayed calm. When I was worried, he said it would be OK. When I wasn't

sure what to do, he figured it out."

Sandberg has not made public her plans on returning to Facebook, but the decision she faces highlights a question that the average worker is not prepared to consider until a similar tragedy strikes: how soon

is too soon to return to work after losing a partner, parent or child?

For those who can, experts recommend taking time off. Many big companies offer a few days of paid bereavement leave and counselling for employees once they return to work.

But experts say workers can grieve for weeks, months, even years following a death. At a time when workers are being asked to spend more of their time at the office and away from home, they say more companies are flexible in these circumstances.

Karissa Thacker, a workplace psychologist who has consulted for companies such as Ford, UPS and Best Buy, said she thinks Sandberg will "certainly Lean In" and negotiate how much time she needs for herself during this difficult time. As the No. 2 executive at Facebook (one of the Top 20 best places to work in 2015, according to Glassdoor), she is in a position to do so. But other workers in less high-profile jobs may also be afforded more time.

Many workers find it difficult to jump back into the demands of their daily workload once they're back at the office. Experts suggest a slow return to work, even going part-time for a while, if possible. And they say everyone from the employers to the workers themselves should be flexible.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MCDONALD'S

Kale salad on menu in Canada

Canadian McDonald's outlets are now serving up new salads featuring an unexpected ingredient from the struggling fast-food giant: Kale.

The world's biggest burger chain, in a battle to reinvent itself, introduced three salads in Canada on Thursday with trendy kale as an ingredient.

The nutrient-rich green has seen a surge in popularity in recent years as health-conscious consumers have eaten leafy kale in salads, smoothies and even baked as chips.

Chris Foong, an analyst with research firm Datassential, said in an email that the number of dining establishments in Canada with kale on the menu increased more than six-fold between 2010 and 2014, to nine per cent of all restaurants across the country.

The vegetable is even referenced in Beyonce's music video for last year's "7/11" single, in which the singer wears a sweater emblazoned with the word "Kale".

McDonald's is introducing kale at precisely the right time as its moment of pop-culture relevance seems to be at its peak, said Armida Ascano of Toronto-based research firm Trend Hunter.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SMARTPHONES

BlackBerry dumps physical keyboard in the Leap

BlackBerry is foregoing its famous physical keyboard in its newest smartphone.

The Waterloo, Ont.-based company launched BlackBerry Leap in Canada on Thursday, a cheaper phone for consumers who want a touch screen but don't want to pay the higher

price of an iPhone or Samsung Galaxy device.

It's the first touchscreen phone from the company since it launched the Z30 more than a year and a half ago.

Since then, BlackBerry has focused on releasing models with a keyboard, like the Pass-

port and Classic, as they've proven to be more popular with the company's business-centric customers.

Features on the Leap include a 25-hour battery life and an eight-megapixel camera.

The company says wireless carriers will offer BlackBerry

Leap for free when users sign a two-year contract, or it can be purchased without a contract for \$349. Higher-end smartphones tend to cost \$400 to \$900 with a



contract.

BlackBerry Leap will be available from an array of wireless carriers in Canada, including Rogers, Telus and Bell, as well as Wind Mobile, Sasktel and BlackBerry's own web store.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

Finding joy in every day: My mother's love is in the details

It's the week before Mother's Day, and I get a parcel in the mail.

I don't have kids. I have a mum to whom Canada Post owes heartfelt gratitude for the money she continues to spend on postage. A mum with a talent for what I call "small-ities" — tiny gestures, short notes, little kindnesses.

This time the parcel consists of a hand-me-down book of poetry, a clipping from the Victoria Times-Colonist newspaper and a postcard bearing the image of an elephant, dressed as a scientist, gawking at the explosion he's just created.

"There's bound to be the odd explosion," mum writes in her larger, rounded script, responding to a recent conversation where I had some complaining to do about life.

Many people live in the anticipation, or the wake, of these explosions. Some, like my mum, live more in the joyous details of a day, and they make things nicer for the rest of us.

Each time she sends me mail — at least a monthly occurrence — I feel surprised, loved, comforted and guilty.

It's not just that I send comparatively few sweet notes and, in this case, have as yet put nothing in the mail for Mother's Day. It's that I'll never be as thoughtful as she is.

For every person she knows tangentially who has

a new baby, there is a book. For every friend she walks dogs with, a birthday jar of jam. In the spring, she always left potted hyacinths in our bedrooms, and their perfume reminds me of the way she eschewed fancy pots and placed the plants, instead, on a random saucer.

Her gestures aren't expensive. They often come in reused wrapping paper. Sometimes she finds them washed up on the beach. They might be a batch of "everything cookies" — made of coconut, chocolate chips, raisins and oats.

If she had to make an effort to be this way, it would be exhausting. But this is no practice of mindfulness. No trick from a self-help book. She is like the little songbirds she loves so much, who go about eating seeds and darting between trees without over-thinking it.

The other morning, she was distracted while playing tennis by a large heron flying into a nearby tree to wrestle away dead branches for his nest.

"He must have been a good 20 or 30 minutes, the poor bird, trying to get twigs," she said.

Every time I manage to hear a bird chirp above the nattering in my own head, I'm reminded of her. Sometimes I even try to be more grateful for — and attentive to — the small kindnesses of life.

Happy face/Sad face

From **patient protests** to **vivacious veterans**, Metro weighs in on the newsmaking headlines



Noises cause more than feline fright

A study in the Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery found certain sounds — especially crinkling tinfoil, but also jangling keys or the clink of a spoon — can cause seizures in elderly cats. The researchers suggested cats are hypersensitive to sounds in the same pitch as a rodent's squeal — though even some deaf cats have been reported to suffer from this strange syndrome.

BBC.COM



Peeved patient asks to be paid for wait

Time is money, and Leslie Ellins wants a refund for hers. She wrote a letter to a Peterborough, Ont. hospital demanding to be reimbursed after waiting an hour and a half for an injection. She enclosed a bill for \$122.50 for her time. Ellins was irate that four patients were scheduled at the same time and said it was the last straw when the doctor and staff had the gall to take a lunch break while she waited.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Veteran wages war on would-be attacker

A robber got more than he bargained for when he attacked 95-year-old Second World War veteran Arthur Kamberis in New Hampshire. Kamberis was leaving a pharmacy when a man approached and reached for his wallet. Kamberis gave the man several firm whacks with his cane before a passerby came to his aid. The attacker fled. Kamberis wasn't hurt, and the Good Samaritan drove him home. Police are still searching for a suspect.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Teen brings some sass to sex ed

The Internet was treated to some of the cheekiest answers ever on a sex-education quiz this week after a post on the photo-sharing site Imgur went viral. On the test, then-14-year-old Montrealer Mariah Fridman was asked to describe how to deal with a partner's objections to condoms. For "I don't have a condom with me," she suggested the comeback, "I don't have my vagina with me." For "Just this once; we hardly ever have sex," she quipped, "Now you know why."

BUZZFEED.COM

Avoiding touchy topics won't make them go away

THE KOHLER REPORT

Rebecca Kohler



Thousands of students across Ontario missed out on school this week when their parents kept them home in protest of the province's new sex-ed curriculum. The updated lesson plans touch on things (no pun intended) like gender identity, anal sex and the potential dangers of sexting. While these topics are new territory for some people, what got me giggling was certain parents' concerns over the fact that masturbation would be discussed with Grade 6 students.

In fact, there was a rumour circulating that teachers were actually going to demonstrate how to masturbate. I found this idea amusing, and then, as I started picturing some of

my elementary-school teachers giving such a lesson, disturbing. Would they do it casually while leaning on their desk? Bring in a trundle bed for the occasion? I thought of one of my French teachers — I'll call her Madame LaTulipe — who was missing half of one finger. And then I realized I don't know how to say "masturbate" in French, despite having been in French immersion. (They seriously don't know how to teach French in this country.)

Later, I remembered how when I was a kid I didn't hold my pencil properly, and my teacher put a plastic triangle on it to correct my finger positioning. Would there be a plastic triangle for the kids who didn't masturbate properly? A penis triangle?

Weird imaginings aside, I do think it's important to talk about masturbation in school just in case kids feel weird

about it, or if for some inexplicable reason they haven't yet discovered the best app the body has to offer.

And that's what a lot of the concerned parents are wary of: that the new curriculum will sexualize their children. But that's based on an age-old misconception. The truth is, children sexualize themselves — I mean, all the school supplies needed for this subject can be found in their pants.

Meanwhile, a Texas high school is in the news this week because it has been hit with a chlamydia outbreak, and guess what the school's sex-ed program teaches? Abstinence. They don't teach, "How to have sex and catch chlamydia." They teach nothing.

Perhaps parents should be more upset that, while there's so much to learn, schools are wasting precious time teaching kids something

The truth is, children sexualize themselves. All the school supplies for this subject are found in their pants.

they already know. (Why not a lesson in, "How to breathe through your nose and/or mouth"? But no — they kept their children home for fear their little innocents would go to school and learn how to masturbate.

I wonder how those kids passed the time all alone in their rooms.

Rebecca Kohler is a stand-up comic, writer, actor, gymnast, lawyer and chemist. (Some of this isn't true.) Follow her on Twitter @becca_kohler

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Girls just wanna have fun, too

ANALYSIS

Hollywood has been slow to make female bonding fodder for comedy

IN FOCUS

Richard Crouse



This weekend Reese Witherspoon and Sofia Vergara play a by-the-book cop and the widow of a drug boss in the comedy *Hot Pursuit*. The unlikely duo hit the road, teaming up to outrun crooked cops and a murderous cartel. "Right now we can't trust anyone but each other," says Reese as they crack wise and dodge bullets.

It's a movie that follows in the long tradition of Hollywood buddy comedies.

There's an argument to be made that Abbott and Costello or Laurel and Hardy originated buddy comedies long before Jack Lemmon and Tony Curtis donned dresses and camped it up in 1959's *Some Like It Hot*.

For my money, however, the Billy Wilder film about two musicians who witness the St. Valentine's Day Massacre and flee the state disguised as women set the template for the modern buddy movie.

The basic formula is there — colliding personalities, gibes and comic conflict between

the two actors — but more important than any of that is the chemistry between Lemmon and Curtis. Even though every buddy picture relies on tension between the leads, sparks also have to fly between them or the whole thing will fall flat.

Brett Ratner, director of *Rush Hour* 1, 2 and 3 — which paired Owen Wilson and Jackie Chan to great effect — calls interesting chemistry between actors "an explosion in a bottle" and says it's crucial to the success of any buddy pic.

Since *Some Like It Hot*, producers have paired up a laundry list of actors searching for the perfect mix. Lemmon and Walter Matthau were the journeymen of the genre, co-starring in six buddy pictures ranging from the sublime — *The Odd Couple*, which features the classic buddy picture one-liner, "I'm a neurotic nut, but you're crazy," — to the ridiculous — *Grumpier Old Men*.

The female buddy comedy is a more elusive beast. Recently Melissa McCarthy and Sandra Bullock teamed as a tough-talking street cop and uptight, lone wolf FBI agent to bring down a murderous drug dealer in *The Heat*. And in the 1980s, Bette Midler was the Queen of the form, pairing off with Shelley Long for *Outrageous Fortune* and with Lily Tomlin for *Big Business* in which both stars played dual roles, making it a buddy comedy times two. "Two's company. Four's a riot," read the movie tagline.

There are others, dating back to 1937's *Stage Door*, but there

DAMES ON DUTY
Turn to p. 39 to see how Metro would recast classic cop movies with female leads



Sofia Vergara and Reese Witherspoon star in *Hot Pursuit*, a female buddy comedy that opens this weekend. CONTRIBUTED

is no debating that Hollywood has been slow to feature female bonding as a subject of buddy movies. It's wild that there are two man-and-his-dog buddy movies — *Turner and Hooch* and *K9* — but so few featuring women. Despite the box office success of

several female buddy comedies, sequels have been as rare as hen's teeth. For instance, *Vulture*.com points out that of the dueling buddy comedies released on April 25, 2008 — Tina Fey and Amy Poehler's *Baby Mama* and Harold & Kumar Escape from

Guantanamo Bay — Fey and company grossed \$60 million, while Harold and friends made \$38 million and yet the guys laughed all the way to another sequel while *Baby Mama* remains a one-off.

Hollywood is finally warming to the idea of female-driven com-

edies, so perhaps this weekend Witherspoon and the highest paid woman on television can generate enough dough to warrant another team-up.

In the movie biz, money usually speaks louder than anything, including gender.

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Nick Kroll gets serious – sort of

NEW RELEASE

Adult Beginners
lets comic take
lead and show
some emotion



**Ned
Ehrbar**
Metro | Hollywood

He's made a name for himself on Kroll Show, Parks and Recreation and The League for off-the-wall, outlandish comedy characters, but Nick Kroll has something new in mind for Adult Beginners, a comedy — about a washed-up entrepreneur (Kroll) who crashes with his sister (Rose Byrne) after his life implodes — with a serious side.

The thing that seems to catch people off-guard with this movie is how dramatic it actually becomes.

I feel like the original idea could've gone either way. You could go toward a big, sort of broad "it's the manny!" thing. But Vin Diesel in The Pacifier kind of ruined that for us. I



Sketch comedy chameleon Nick Kroll takes a shot at playing a big screen lead in dramedy **Adult Beginners**. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

pretty quickly knew that I wasn't interested in that kind of movie, and when I started talking to Mark Duplass about

it — and the way he comes at the projects he makes — it just felt like this could be a really grounded, real story.

And then when we met with Liz Flahive and Jeff Cox, who wrote the script, who have a 3-year-old son and also just gave birth to a kid literally right before we started production, there's just so much to work with. I hope the movie's funny and I hope the movie's dramatic and works, but you didn't need to do a lot of leg-work on either side to make it feel resonant. Our feeling was don't push either, let everything happen as realistically as it can, and the drama will be there and the comedy will be there. Also, then, getting guys like Bobby Cannavale who as an actor is always going to play things real while also comedic, it made us try to approach the story as real to the relationships as possible.

Does having a TV back-ground help?

Liz, who has been working on Nurse Jackie for a long time and is now running it, I think, was also a playwright. And Jeff, her husband — he and his

brother wrote Blades of Glory, so you knew that you were playing with both. You knew that you had people who were really grounded and were also going to write funny stuff, funny details.

And the supporting cast in this has some prime comedy talent.

We luckily peppered it with talent. Obviously at the core it's me, Rose and Bobby and the changing alliances with all that. But then every scene is peppered with an all-star. We start with Joel (McHale), we come back to him and we get (Jason) Mantzoukas, we've got Josh Charles, Jane (Krakowski), Julie White, Celia Weston — every scene has this other element that comes in to ruffle feathers.

Doing a climactic scene waist-deep in water has got to be a challenge.

And no joke, the heater was not working. And it was eight degrees outside and snowing.

CANCON FUN

• If your life crumbled today, like your character's does, which of your cast-mates would you choose to move in with?

I'm super close with Jason Mantzoukas, who plays my rival manny (aka man nanny) in the movie. But he's really OCD about his living space so I'm not sure how long that would last.

• What's something you suck at, that you should have mastered by now as an adult?

I suck at the little things in life, like doing my taxes. Bigger things like finishing my movie, for example, no problem. But washing my car I can't do.

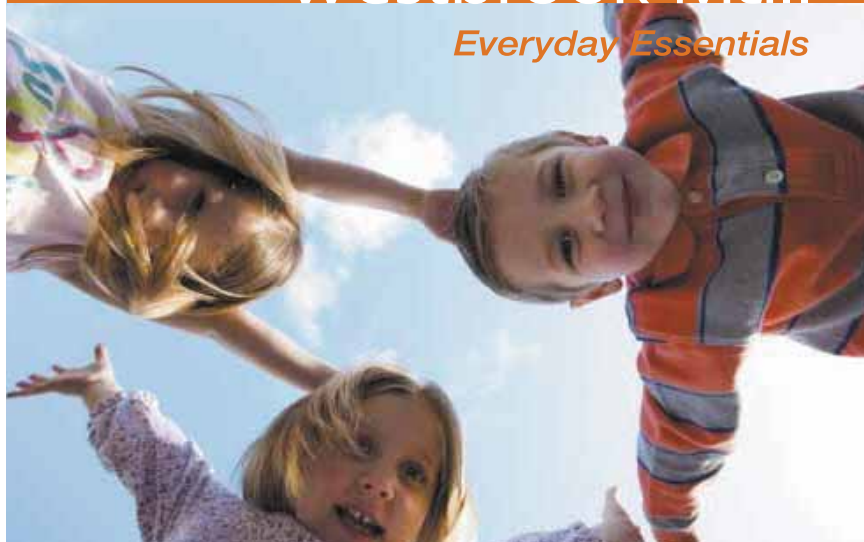
• You seem to love referencing Canadian culture. Do you remember the first time you visited this great land?

When I was a kid I went to summer camp in Maine so whenever we went on an excursion we'd cross over into Quebec. But I also remember my dad taking me to Toronto when I was young and going to the SkyDome. I also remember staring out our hotel window into other buildings specifically looking for people having sex.

LIZ BEDDALL/METRO TORONTO

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Bobby Cannavale, left, Rose Byrne and Nick Kroll in Adult Beginners. RADIUS-TWC/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Iris Apfel has never heard of normcore

DOCUMENTARY

Nonagenarian says great style takes a lot of work



Lucy Scholey
Metro|Ottawa

Wearing big, round glasses and layers of colourful bangles, Iris Apfel haggles for deals at thrift stores.

It's the recurring scene in the new documentary, *Iris*, about the now 93-year-old New York fashion icon. The film will be screened across Canada this month.

The natty nonagenarian talked to Metro about her style.

What do you think of today's Instagram and YouTube style icons?

I don't know much about it. Technologically, I live in the 17th century and I don't do computer and I don't do Internet, so I really don't know. But I did a program for YouTube when I was in California and what I saw when I was there was a little bit frightening. Not my idea of what style icons should be.

What styles do you think will last until the end of time?

There is no one style that will last until the end of time. Style is a very personal thing. It has to be part of the person who is stylish. It's a huge mistake looking for some sort of universal style. It's fashion, but style is quite different. Style is an attitude, an expression of one's personality, and it can't be a one-size-fits-all kind of thing, in my view.

Any trends you're not big on?

I don't follow trends. I think they're foolish. I mean, if trends work for you, then great. The fashion press, they're very dictatorial — you must have this, this is in, this is out, the 10 things you have to have this season. I mean, you don't have to have anything this season if it doesn't suit you. And you have to have the ability to choose what suits you if you want to look interesting and not just follow the herd and look like one of the sheep.



Iris Apfel is the subject of the new documentary *Iris*, documenting her life in fashion. © BRUCE WEBER

Do you have any advice on how one can establish or discover an individual style?

You have to work at it. A lot of people don't want to do it. They want instant everything. You have to know who you are, what you can carry, how much time you're willing to put into it. It takes a long time. You have to do trial and error. You have to try things and see how they work. Sometimes they work very well and sometimes they don't.

Can you describe how your fashion sense has evolved?

I think my look has been pretty much the same forever. I mean, it's gotten a little more sophisticated, perhaps. But I don't think my style has changed. I'm still the same person. I was always known for being

extremely colourful. I wear less colour now, I think, than I did before.

What about some wardrobe essentials everyone should have in their closets?

It depends on who you are. There are no essentials everybody should have. I don't think like that. I mean, what could be essential for you might be extraneous for me.

What do you think of the latest "normcore" trend? Normcore? What's that?

It's a fashion trend that's supposed to be undistinguished — sneakers and T-shirts. Apparently, it's in right now. That doesn't make it style. Maybe it makes it fashion, but that's fine. I wear jeans.

Now playing



COMEDY

Adult Beginners

Director: Ross Katz
Starring: Rose Byrne, Nick Kroll

A young, hipster entrepreneur (Nick Kroll) crashes and burns on the eve of his company's big launch. With his entire life in disarray, he leaves Manhattan to move in with his estranged pregnant sister (Rose Byrne), brother-in-law (Bobby Cannavale) and three year-old nephew in the suburbs — only to become their nanny.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: 45% **Audience:** 40%



COMEDY

Hot Pursuit

Director: Anne Fletcher
Starring: Reese Witherspoon, Sofia Vergara

In *Hot Pursuit*, an uptight and by-the-book cop (Reese Witherspoon) tries to protect the sexy and outgoing widow (Sofia Vergara) of a drug boss as they race through Texas, pursued by crooked cops and murderous gunmen.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: 17% **Audience:** 91%



DOCUMENTARY

Going Clear: Scientology and the Prison of Belief

Director: Alex Gibney
Starring: Paul Haggis, Mark Rathbun

Directed by Oscar winner Alex Gibney and based on the book by Pulitzer Prize winner Lawrence Wright, *Going Clear* profiles eight former members of the Church of Scientology.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: 96% **Audience:** 92%

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Steve Gow
For Metro

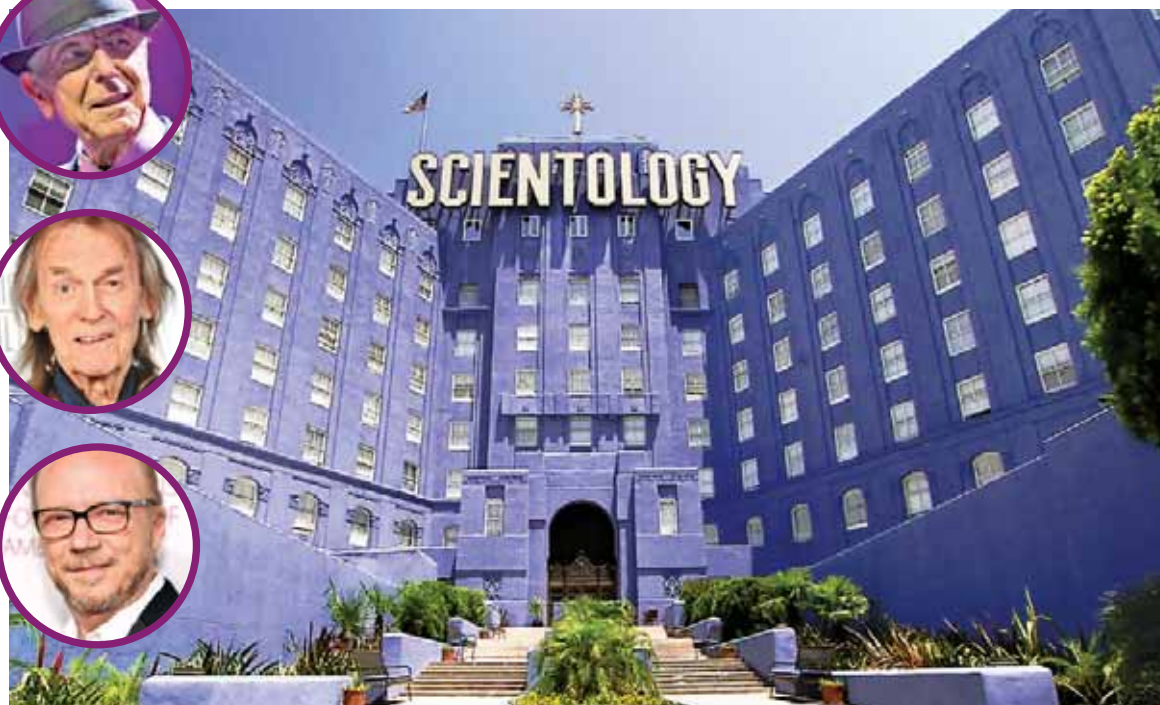
What do Leonard Cohen, Gordon Lightfoot and Oscar-winning filmmaker Paul Haggis have in common? If you guessed they're all famous Canadians, you're right. But they have also been linked in the media to Scientology.

"You've one-upped me on that," laughed Mike Rinder during a recent interview to discuss his participation in the provocative new documentary *Going Clear: Scientology and the Prison of Belief*. As a former high-ranking executive of the Church of Scientology, Rinder may not have kept tally on the Canadian contingent of the Church's congregation, but he does understand why so many Scientologists are famous.

"(Founder) L. Ron Hubbard realized that if you get celebrities involved, they will spread the word," said the 60-year-old defector.

"If you ask anybody on the street what (they) know about Scientology, probably the answer will be 'Well, I know Tom Cruise or John Travolta is one of them.'"

That is just one of the many curiosities raised about Scientology in *Going Clear* — a dramatic declaration about the cryptic billion-dollar church that hides dark secrets behind the walls of



Canadians Leonard Cohen, Gordon Lightfoot and Paul Haggis have all once been linked to Scientology. CONTRIBUTED/GETTY

its slick Hollywood headquarters.

The film claims such misdeeds include physical abuse, threats of lawsuits, forcing family members to "disconnect" (sever lines of communication) and even blackmail.

"John (Travolta) has said himself that he thinks Scientology is wonderful and that it's treated him wonderfully. I believe that, in part, is true," said Rinder — before suggesting there may be a more fundamental cause for Travolta's blind loyalty.

"If he were to speak out, per-



You can go to almost any city in the U.S. and the prominence of the local Church of Scientology is just about the same as the prominence in Toronto, which is zero.

Former Scientologist Mike Rinder

haps his wife would not agree and disconnect and maybe influence his children to do the same."

That "disconnection" is a tragic aspect of the church that's

affected Rinder directly.

Since leaving Scientology abruptly in 2007, he has been "disconnected" entirely from his family — who remain Scientologists.

While that loss may fuel his "responsibility to do something" for others stuck in the Church, many Canadians will feel relieved Rinder's activism against the cult of Scientology lies mainly south of the border.

"I don't think its impact has made many in-roads in Canada at all. But I don't think that's any different than the United States," said Rinder.

He says that outside of the Church's two main hubs in Hollywood and Florida, Scientology has had little prominence, even

MORE MOVIES

Other films about cults:

• *The Master* (2012)

This Oscar-nominated drama follows a military vet lured into a religious cult by its charismatic leader (Philip Seymour Hoffman). While filmmaker Paul Thomas Anderson has downplayed it, there are notable parallels to Scientology.

• *Ticket to Heaven* (1981)

Friends attempt to deprogram a young Torontonian after he is seduced by a fundraising religious cult in this acclaimed, Genie Award-winning Canadian drama starring a young Kim Cattrall.

• *Jesus Camp* (2006)

An Oscar-nominated documentary, *Jesus Camp* examines a religious-based summer-retreat that trains children to be "God's Army."

as the organization continues to raise money and boast about its growth — which notably includes a recently constructed shrine in Cambridge, Ont.

"The Church tries to claim that this is evidence that there is this massive expansion that's occurring but if you were to take a drive over to Cambridge and walk in the front door, you will find a completely empty building," said Rinder. "They're like that all over the place."

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Jack Black rides the D Train

INTERVIEW

Latest film gives goofy actor a chance to get weird

At an East Village restaurant over dinner recently, after ordering mussels and selecting a white wine, Jack Black proffered a theatrical "Gratzi" to the waitress. He then leaned in expectantly, his gymnastic eyebrows raised, eagerly awaiting a response that didn't come.

"She didn't say prego," he said, slumping back into the booth, crestfallen.

Black was in town to promote his latest film, *The D Train*, a black comedy about a status-obsessed family man organizing his high school reunion. Black had just come from taping the *Tonight Show*, where he and Jimmy Fallon remade the music

video to the Extreme ballad *More Than Words*.

Sitting down to eat, he bel-lows: "If you want the scoop, you got to feed the beast!"

Four years ago, Black starred in Richard Linklater's *Bernie*, a comedy about a true-life tale of a below-

ed small-town Texas mortician convicted of murder. The movie was smaller than Black's normal out-

put (*Kung Fu Panda*, *Gulliver's Travels*, *Year One*) but it was acclaimed. Black, it turned out, was an exceptional character actor.

"I was like: I want to make more of these movies that are weird and cool," he says. "No money be-cause

that's what happens when you make a weird movie. I was actively looking for more indie projects because of my experience on *Bernie*.

"Let's be honest, I've whiffed it a couple times," he says. "And then it's nervous times. And like three years go by, then here comes another wave. I'm glad I'm catching another wave."

A conversation with Black could have its own mixtape. The Beatles' *Sexy Sadie*, Kanye West's *Yeezus* and *Die Antwoord* are discussed; songs sung include the Rolling Stones' *Torn* and *Frayed* and Cat Stevens' *Where Will the Children Play*, which Black recently performed at a benefit. "Han Solo was there," he says, referring to Harrison Ford. "He came over. Single tear."

Black's wife is a cellist: "We do jam," he says.

At their Los Angeles home with their two boys, Black prefers to stay out of the limelight. "I like to go swimming and just put on a record, listen to half, go in all wet, getting the floors all wet, flip it and play the other side of that record."

In *The D Train*, Black plays

perhaps his least likeable character. "A total turd," he calls him.

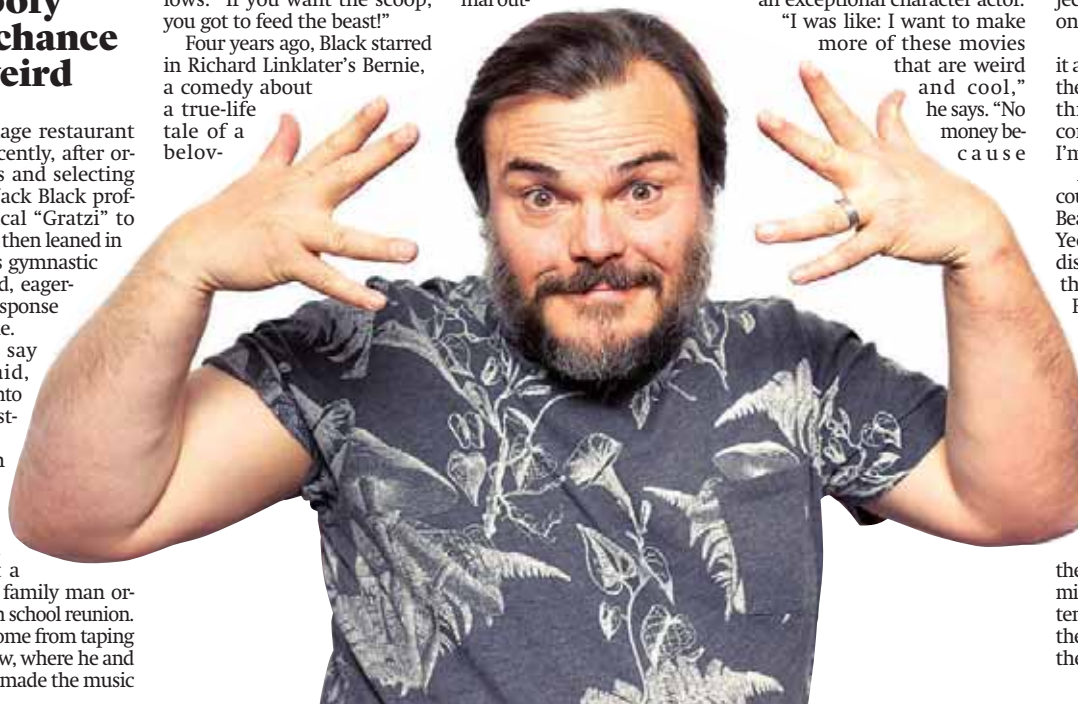
To lure the most popular guy (James Marsden) back to the reunion, he piles fiction on top of fiction until it leads to an already infamous bisexual encounter. *The D Train* could be the bromance to end all bromances.

"I just hadn't seen it before," says Black. "I guess that's just it: I hadn't seen it before."

Of course, *School of Rock* remains the quintessential Black film. He's bombastic and sweet, a combustible, always-riffing tornado of enthusiasm. But *The D Train* and *Bernie* point toward a new direction.

"What I took away from it is: Stop caring so much about what people think of you," he says of *The D Train*. "I'm always stressing. Like: 'Oh God, I hope it's a hit. I hope people like me. The stress comes from: If this doesn't go well, then maybe I don't work again. That never goes away.'"

Black discovers the waitress is Estonian. "I'm glad I cleared that up," he says. But later as he sips his after-dinner drink, he tries once more, and this time, he's finally rewarded. "She said prego." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Maria Bello is whatever you want her to be

NEW BOOK

Actress examines the labels we put on love and sex

Actress Maria Bello says she's developing a movie about late transgender AIDS activist Marsha P. Johnson.

Bello writes about Johnson

in her new book, *Whatever ... Love is Love*, noting she admired Johnson and was horrified when she spotted her body floating in the Hudson River in 1992. Police ruled the death a suicide but in 2012 re-opened the case as a possible homicide.

Bello says she's now developing a film on Johnson through Ground Seven Entertainment, a new production company she runs with romantic partner Clare Munn.

"We're finding all sorts of partnerships, people who loved or have been fascinated with Marsha P," she says.

Bello says Ground Seven has about 14 projects in development, both film and TV, as it aims to represent "diverse voices from seven continents."

"It's really about the hero and heroine story that you wouldn't expect to be heroes and heroines."

She adds: "This is a big part

of the 'whateverness.' These are stories of 'whatevers.'"

"Whatever" is also the theme of Bello's book, a collection of personal essays on her life and the labels we put on relationships and sexuality.

The two-time Golden Globe nominee says she considers herself a 'W' or a 'whatever,' not a specific label like 'bisexual' or 'lesbian.' Some media outlets put those labels on her when she wrote in the New

York Times in 2013 that she'd fallen in love with a woman.

"The point of the article wasn't about my sexuality," she says.

"The point of the article was about these labels of partnership and family and sexuality and how my family and myself don't fit into those tiny little boxes."

Bello says she came "out as a human being ... as someone who supports human rights."

But she adds: "You can call me anything you want if it pushes the needle for human rights, to be honest."

Bello wrote the article after falling ill with parasites from her humanitarian travels to Haiti two years ago.

While in hospital recovering, she looked around at her family and realized she wanted to celebrate them and who they were.

Bello was also inspired by her then 12-year-old son, Jackson, when he reacted to news of her relationship to Munn by saying, "Whatever, love is love."

She says she then wrote the book in the hope that readers would “question their own labels that they give themselves that might empower them or dis-empower them.”

The Pennsylvania native writes about her spiritual beliefs, her humanitarian work, her relationships and those who've inspired her.

She also writes on her mother, who's been battling cancer for many years, and her father, who turned to alcohol to dull the pain from an on-the-job injury.

Bello reveals both she and her dad have been diagnosed with bipolar disorder.

"The hardest part of the book to write was about my family, specifically my father," she says.

"I didn't want to hurt his feelings in any way, because he's such an extraordinary man who had been through so much and came out the other end."

"He was one of the first ones who read the book and gave his blessing."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

“You can call me anything you want if it pushes the needle for human rights, to be honest”

Maria Bello



Maria Bello
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Joey Bats' tape measure blast

BASEBALL TO BLUE JEANS

Blue Jay Jose Bautista teams with Silver Jeans on denim line

Jose Bautista has no plans to abandon his day job, but the Toronto Blue Jays all-star slugger is exploring another passion away from the baseball field: fashion.

The right-fielder has partnered with Canadian brand Silver Jeans Co. on the Joey Series, which will

be released in North America this July.

The denim collection's moniker is a reference to Bautista's "Joey Bats" nickname, which he also uses as his social media handle. The Joey Series jeans will be featured in classic straight and loose fits in a variety of washes.

Bautista said he tried to be hands-on for his initial foray into fashion. He embarked on several trips to learn more about production and manufacturing, which proved eye-opening.

"There's so many selections on stitching, on buttons, cuts, fabrics, washes, the logos and where they go ... I didn't know the process was that complicated," Bautista said at the Toronto launch event.

"If you want to let everybody else do the work and you just put your name on it, I'm sure it's easy. But for me, I wanted to make it a really informational learning process for me — so I asked about everything.

"It's difficult to get the wash right, to get the fabric and the feel right.... If you want to make it a little stretchy, just by changing one per cent of the fabric into a more elastic fabric, you can change the feel of the denim completely. So, I enjoyed learning a lot — and I think there's a lot more for me to learn still."

Bautista said he values comfort and versatility in jeans.

Growing up in the Dominican Republic, Bautista admits he dabbled in the baggy T-shirt and baggy jeans look that was particularly popular in the '90s. However, the loose-fitting styles weren't the most flattering for his lanky frame.

"I was always one of the skinny guys, and I wasn't nearly as filled out as I am now," said the six-foot Bautista.

The Joey Series collection will retail for around \$100 and will be available at Jean Machine in Canada and online at silverjeans.com.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

I was always one of the skinny guys, and I wasn't nearly as filled out as I am now

Jose Bautista

Toronto Blue Jays right-fielder Jose Bautista wears jeans from the Joey Series collection for Silver Jeans Co.

HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

GROCERIES

Whole Foods to curate its produce

Whole Foods is planning a new store concept geared toward millennials as it faces intensifying competition from traditional supermarkets and big box retailers muscling into organic and natural products.

The company said Wednesday it's building a team to focus exclusively on the concept, and that it's already negotiating leases and plans to start opening stores next year.

Walter Robb, co-CEO of

Whole Foods, said the stores will feature a "modern, streamlined design, innovative technology and a curated selection," and that more details will be provided before Labour Day. A representative for Whole Foods, Kate Lowery, said a name hasn't yet been selected for the new concept.

The plans come as Whole Foods, which has more than 400 stores, faces slowing growth amid intensifying competition.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

1¢

Profit rose to \$158 million, or 44 cents per share. That was a penny more than expected.



Customers shop for produce at a Whole Foods market in San Francisco. GETTY IMAGES

KIDS FASHION

DeGeneres teams with Gap Kids to bring girl power to school clothes

Ellen DeGeneres is teaming up with Gap Kids on a clothing range with a positive message.

The TV host's lifestyle brand E.D. is working with Gap on a range of children's school apparel "designed to help all girls realize they have the power to do extraordinary things."

According to Women's Wear Daily, Gap has described the GapKids x E.D. range as "an apparel collection and social movement." Global President Jeff Kirwan told the publication that the joint venture would allow the label to "champion girls... true to our brand's heritage, which has long stood for supporting youth in a way that unleashes their potential."

For her part, Ellen seems equally pleased with the collaboration. "I am thrilled that my lifestyle brand, E.D., is partnering with Gap to encourage young girls to pursue their passion, whether it's math, science, sports or the arts," she said. AFP

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For young Shailyn Pierre Dixon, it's a family affair

SHOW BUSINESS

Actress looks to her mom for inspiration

Vawn Himmelsbach
Metro | Life

Shailyn Pierre Dixon just tried out for her school's softball team and she's pretty sure she made the cut. But it's hard to tell if she's more excited about playing softball or finding out she's just been nominated for a Golden Maple Award as newcomer of the year in a TV series broadcast in the U.S.

At 11 years old, Shailyn already has some serious acting cred under her belt, starring as the young Aminata in *The Book of Negroes* and joining the cast of Netflix's first Canadian co-production *Between* — a post-apocalyptic *Lord of the Flies* — that premieres May 21.

But her mom wants to make sure she still gets to be a kid.

The Caledon, Ont.-based actress, writer and producer Christina Dixon understands "movie land," but she also knows what it's like to be a mom.

Between, for example, involved a rather scary cast member: a tiger.

"Shailyn and I are both adrenalin junkies," says Dixon. So when Shailyn read the script for *Between*, she was thrilled to find out she'd be working with a tiger.

"Part of me was as excited and as stoked about it, and the mother in me was like, 'Is this tiger going to eat my child?'"

But, she adds, Shailyn is fearless. "I wasn't going to put any of my fear on her if she didn't have any, so I bit my tongue."

Watching Shailyn on screen — especially with the roles she's chosen to play — can be challenging as a mother.

"Shailyn is an incredibly happy person (and) she's playing these roles where she's the absolute opposite of that — she's depressed and oppressed and she's being degraded," says Dixon. "It was really hard to watch at times."

Shailyn didn't study acting. And she doesn't really know how she taps into these complex characters.

"I help with her auditions and coach her but she just jumped in," says Dixon.

"Her first movie was (Hollywood blockbuster) *The Best Man Holiday* — that's how Shailyn does things in life. ... The opportunities she's had are things people wait a lifetime for, but it's not something that's fallen into her lap. She's worked for it."

The challenge for Dixon is finding a way to help her daughter accomplish her dreams, while preserving her childhood — and balancing that with her own career.

When they found out Shailyn landed the part in *The Book of Negroes*, they had less than 48 hours before they had to be on a plane to Cape Town.

The first call Dixon made was to her mother, who asked what she could do to help.

"Having that kind of support system makes it possible," says Dixon. "You can't do it by your-

“

Obviously she's my mom, but she's also my best friend

Shailyn on her mom
Christina Dixon

self."

Shailyn has already garnered a reputation for professionalism, which she attributes to her mom.

"Obviously she's my mom," she says, "but she's also my best friend and she inspires me all the time."

While Dixon plays multiple roles in Shailyn's life, she wants to avoid being a "momager," a word Shailyn doesn't quite understand. When Dixon tries to explain the word's negative connotations, Shailyn decides to come up with a new word, one that encompasses Dixon's role as a mom, manager and actress: momertress.

"We'll keep working on that," laughs Dixon. "I love that you look at the bright side, baby."



For Christina Dixon and her daughter Shailyn, acting runs in the family. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

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Not exactly like mom used to make

COOKING

Like Massimo Bottura, I tried a dish that defied tradition

THE TV DINNER

Jessica Allen



Every spring, the return of fresh produce is as dependable as celebrity-heavy superhero franchises steamrolling — preferably in CGI — into theatres. But last weekend, because I was more eager to see what the first greens of the season would be after such a long winter than figuring out who exactly Ultron is, I visited a farmers market instead of lining up for the latest Avengers. But I found only spring onions and green garlic.

I purchased a couple bunches of each from a man wearing an “I love Berlin” sweat-shirt, whose long hair was held back by a pair of neon green sunglasses.

The same man suggested



Italian chef Massimo Bottura's restaurant is profiled in the new Netflix documentary series **Chef's Table**. Inspired by Bottura, Jessica Allen invented this pasta dish. NETFLIX; JESSICA ALLEN

that I make a pesto out of the green garlic. I nodded enthusiastically, but on the inside I shuddered, imagining what my Italian friends would think. Yes, there are varieties of pesto. But one can never be

too sure how Italians' adherence to culinary authenticity, which is both praise-worthy and paralyzing, will go over.

Take Italian chef Massimo Bottura, who dares to use traditional ingredients from

Modena and completely reinterprets them. He and his three-Michelin-starred restaurant Osteria Francescana are profiled in the new six-part Netflix documentary series, **Chef's Table**.



But the accolades for Bottura's inventive brand of cooking weren't immediate.

Italy is a country where if you asked anyone “where you can find the greatest food in the country, the answer is usually mom,” says food writer Faith Willinger in the inaugural episode.

“In the first years of the restaurant, you never found anyone from Modena in the dining room,” she says. “It wasn't what mom did.”

Inspired by Bottura's bravery, I decided to invent a pasta. Okay, basically I made

cacio e pepe — the simplest and most satisfying of pastas: think cheese, pepper and starchy pasta water — to which I added those wispy greens that I'd charred on the barbecue and some crispy pancetta.

It's the kind of dish I'd love to share with my mom, who loves to sample anything I make out-of-the-ordinary from her comestible repertoire when I visit her in London, Ont.

Her version of spaghetti, which I don't often pine for, contains ground beef, green peppers, garlic powder and a jar of ready-made Ragù. I almost forgot the mushrooms. Canned mushrooms.

On second thought — and even though I can't tell you the last time I bought a green pepper — I'd happily indulge in a plate of her pasta if it meant sharing it with her. Sometimes it's not the bread, but who you break it with.

JESSICA ALLEN IS THE DIGITAL CORRESPONDENT ON CTV'S THE SOCIAL

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Entertainment **metro** LIFE



Jane Fonda and Lily Tomlin in the new Netflix series **Grace and Frankie**. CONTRIBUTED

Jane and Lily: Drugs, dildos and divorce

COMEDY SERIES

Stars of Grace and Frankie burst onto Netflix



Ned Ehrbar
Metro | Hollywood

Jane Fonda has taken peyote. The 77-year-old actress, activist and fitness guru isn't being shy about the practical experience she's brought to *Grace and Frankie*, the Netflix series she stars in alongside Lily Tomlin. "Among other things," she says matter-of-factly. "It makes me throw up, just like the show says. It's good to mix it with mushrooms."

Doing hallucinogens is one thing, but doing television? That's not something Fonda could have fathomed until a few years ago, when she signed on for Aaron Sorkin's *The Newsroom* on HBO.

"When I started in movies in the late '50s, early '60s, you never would do television. People who did television never made movies, and if you possibly could make movies, you never would do television," Fonda says. "It wasn't until about seven or eight years ago that I realized I really wanted to do television and I wanted to give a cultural face to an older woman. So when this came along, it was a dream come true."

It was also a chance to work with Nine to Five co-star and longtime pal Tomlin again, something that, at least ac-

ording to Tomlin, has always been a priority.

"I'd always tell my agent, or my partner and I might be trying to develop something that has to do with older people," Tomlin says. "When my agent called me and told me, 'Are you really trying to do something with Jane?' I said, 'Yeah, sure, I'd like to.' And then he brought (Friends co-creator) Marta (Kauffman) to us and she gave us the notion of her idea, and after that we jumped in with both feet."

That idea, by the way, is a doozy. *Grace (Fonda) and Frankie (Tomlin)* are two very different women who've maintained a tenuous friendship because their husbands (Martin Sheen and Sam Waterston) are law partners. But when the husbands announce that they're both gay and are running off together, *Grace and Frankie* are left with each other to help pick up the pieces.

So how do two women go decades with the same men not

realizing something is amiss? Tomlin explains, "Like I say in that speech on the beach, 'I suspected things, I thought something was up, but ...' And then Fonda interrupts her: "When he asked you to use the dildo? It's called denial."

“

We jumped in with both feet

Lily Tomlin on getting to work with Jane Fonda again

But back to the peyote. Tomlin, for one, wants to assure everyone that while she and Fonda may have personal experience to draw on, they're no Method actresses.

"We had to kind of project into that experience," she says of the drugged-out beach scene in the first episode. "No matter how much experience we've had, it's not like we actually are eating peyote at that moment."



WOMEN OF A CERTAIN AGE

No doddering old ladies for Fonda and Tomlin

A big selling point for both stars, aside from getting to work together again, was the image the series projects of women of a certain age.

"We both get enough scripts to know that when you're an older woman you tend to be the butt of a joke," Fonda says.

Tomlin elaborates: "I always resented that. I didn't like that. If a woman didn't have autonomy, if she was somebody's grandmother and they made her into a doddering little old lady who just put up with stuff and kind of was vague, that just rubs me the wrong way — unless a very artful hand was on that depiction, and then I might have to look at it another way or something. But that usually doesn't happen."

Buddy cop classics recast with women

Chris Alexander
Metro | Canada

The science of the “buddy cop” movie formula is simple: Take a pair of mismatched lawmen (or a cop and a civilian roped into the action), make one the loose cannon, the other uptight and watch the ensuing fun.

The latest buddy cop flick to hit screens is the Reese Witherspoon/Sofia Vergara vehicle *Hot Pursuit*, and what makes it unusual is its gender-specific casting. But as 2013’s comedy-action hit *The Heat* proved, the ladies can bumble around a crime scene with equally predictable, but nevertheless entertaining, results. So while we wait for the verdict on *Hot Pursuit*, Metro day-dreamed about what it would be like if we could recast our favourite male-centric buddy cop flicks ... with chicks.



Starsky & Hutch

A revival of the 1970s cop drama that starred David Soul and Paul Michael Glaser would go down easier with an estrogen-flipped casting of the scrappy and sexy **Emma Stone** and **Scarlett Johansson** in leather driving jackets. DO IT!



48 Hrs.

This Walter Hill-directed classic sees Eddie Murphy in his breakout role as a petty crook who hooks up with grizzled detective Nick Nolte to track down a ruthless drug dealer. As funny and caustic as Murphy was, imagine *Pitch Perfect 2* star **Rebel Wilson** as the street-smart thug and *Gone Girl*’s **Rosamund Pike** as an icy incarnation of the Nolte character. Wilson would bring the laughs and Pike would play straight-woman while giving her the stink eye.

Dragnet

The landmark TV show was originally a radio program, and later, a feature comedy film starring Tom Hanks and Dan Aykroyd. All incarnations featured blank-faced detective Joe Friday and his revolving door of partners solving crimes in L.A. For our money, we’d love to have *Game of Thrones* heavy **Lena Headey** star as humourless Jolene Friday and perhaps cast her against **Helena Bonham Carter** as her chain-smoking, hard-drinking partner.



Tango & Cash

Legendary and lunk-headed flick starring Sylvester Stallone and Kurt Russell as two wisecracking LAPD cops, framed by drug lords and sent to the slammer for life. Forget Sly and Kurt — wouldn’t it be divine to see the two *Grande Dames* of contemporary cinema, **Helen Mirren** and **Meryl Streep**, as senior officers doing hard time in a women’s prison while endlessly saying “FUBAR,” instead?



Turner & Hooch

This was one of a handful of ‘80s flicks that featured an officer forced to share space with some class of canine. Tom Hanks’ obsessive-compulsive detective teamed with a drooling dog with a nose for trouble. We’d gladly take the ever-watchable **Rose Byrne** as Turner and, in a brilliant bit of stunt casting, hook her up with **Kim Kardashian** in a fur coat as the uncouth Hooch. Whaddya think?

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Broadway-style shows climb aboard

DISNEY

Cruises ditch cheesy revues for stylish performances

Vawn Himmelsbach
For Metro

Entertainment on cruise ships is often associated with cheesy musical revues, bingo games and line dancing, but lately there's been a push to up the ante.

Disney Cruise Line, for example, has announced its newest stage show, *Tangled: The Musical*, which is being designed for an audience at sea. Slated to premiere Nov. 11 aboard the *Disney Magic* cruise ship, this will be the first time the tale has been adapted for a stage production.

"Other cruise lines are doing Broadway-style shows, but ... we're creating original Broadway-style shows," said David Baldree, entertainment producer with Disney Cruise Line, during a sneak peek of the show at its rehearsal space



Tangled: The Musical will premiere in November aboard the *Disney Magic* cruise ship, marking the first time the animated film has been adapted for the stage. DISNEY

in Toronto earlier this week.

Tangled: The Musical will feature three new songs created for the show by Academy Award-winning composer Alan Menken; costumes by Tony Award-winning designer Paloma Young; and a new breed of puppetry — for Maximus, the horse in *Tangled* — from

master puppet designer Michael Curry, whose creations are best known from Disney's *The Lion's King* on Broadway.

"Because Disney has all these properties, we can create something from the ground up, which is a huge undertaking — workshops in L.A. and New York and casting in Chi-

cago and London," said Gordon Greenberg, the show's director. "It's a massive operation and, in the end, the payoff is you get something wholly original that you can't see anywhere else."

Developing a show for a cruise ship, as opposed to Broadway or London's West

End, provides more creative licence, he added.

"The biggest difference for me is we have these amazing hydraulics for which I'd have to lobby really long and hard (for) on land," said Greenberg. "It's a great playground."

Aside from fireworks at sea, deck parties and first-

+ SHOWS AT SEA

On ships' schedules

• Royal Caribbean is inviting New York aboard with its Broadway at Sea program of Tony Award-winning shows, from *Cats* to *Chicago The Musical*, *Saturday Night Fever* and *Mamma Mia!*

• Norwegian Cruise Line is staging Broadway hits *Burn The Floor* and *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* (coming in October), as well as a British pop-music entertainment experience called *The Cavern Club*, which imitates the Liverpool venue where the Beatles performed.

VAWN HIMMELSBACH/FOR METRO

VACATION

Wildlife, amazing vistas star in road trip across Canada

ON THE MOVE

Loren Christie

Relatively cheap gas prices at the pumps and a weak Canadian dollar make a road trip in Canada this summer's go-to vacation. From Trinity to Tofino, here are a few choice routes.

The drive from Banff to Jasper through two of Alberta's national parks along the stunning Icefields Parkway might be the best drive in the country. It offers an incredible mix of Rocky Mountain scenery and wildlife. On a recent trip I saw big horned sheep, more elk than anyone could count and a grizzly bear. Avoid the overwhelming urge to get out of the car to take a photo. It's a bad idea, these animals are wild. Favourite stops include the Peyto Lake overlook, lunch at the Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise and an excursion up onto the Athabasca Glacier aboard a Brewster Ice Explorer.

Nova Scotia's Cabot Trail is a personal favourite. It offers stunning scenery,



The Cabot Trail. FLICKR: ANDREA SCHAEFFER

wildlife viewing (whales and moose) and the opportunity to touch the distinct Acadian and Scottish cultures that colour the history of the province. End your day with a fresh seafood meal and kick your heels up at a traditional Celtic party, known as a ceilidh.

Route 132 in Quebec's Gaspé region offers a scenic shore-hugging drive through silver-steepled villages surrounded by mountains and serenaded by the sea. The route forms a loop of about 900 kilometres. As the sea-way widens into the gulf, try some ferry-hopping to explore both coasts of the St. Lawrence River. Take a

break from the car and hop aboard a zodiac for some of the country's best whale watching.

The world-renowned Sea-to-Sky highway from Vancouver to Whistler is a great start to a breathtaking British Columbia road trip. The trick is to keep going past Whistler on Highway 99 until you reach Ashcroft and then hook onto the Trans-Canada Highway back to Vancouver. This loop will take you past incredible river gorges and through the only desert in Canada. At the end of your trip, take a short diversion to Harrison Hot Spring for a soak in a natural hot spring.



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EMERALD AWARDS



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CHALLENGE ACHIEVES ITS TARGETS

The annual Green Commuting Challenge (GCC) at Captain Nichola Goddard School in northwest Calgary hits three targets — reducing environmental impacts, reducing traffic around the school and increasing students' daily physical activity through active transportation.

The three-year-old program encourages students in grades 4-9 to walk or bike to school.

In the program's first year, 80 of the school's 500 students registered. In the second year, the school modified the program to address concerns about students walking or biking alone. GCC set up "green commuting hubs," spots around the community where students could meet in the morning and walk to school with a group. That increased registration to 200 of about 700 students at the school that year.

This year, the program has added five drop zones so parents can drop off their children at a hub to walk the rest of the way to school with the group. Within the first two weeks, an average of 493 students participated—more than half of the students attending Captain Nichola Goddard School this year.

"From our six-week challenges in the first two years, students offset approximately 1,500 pounds of carbon dioxide and travelled approximately 4,000 kilometres by green commuting to school," says Debbie Rheinstein, a teacher and GCC champion. "Currently, in our third year, we hope to meet and surpass these benchmarks as we continue to grow our project."

GCC is run by about 15 students who market the project around the school, encourage their peers to be green commuters, collect and analyze data and plan various components of the program.

Awards celebrate excellence

People across Alberta feel passionate about the need to balance the development of the province's rich resources with careful stewardship of the environment, and every year, Albertans celebrate that balance with the Emerald Awards.

The 24th annual Emerald Awards will be presented on June 4 at the Citadel Theatre in Edmonton.

From small entrepreneurs to big energy producers, the Alberta Emerald Awards recognize and applaud dozens of environmental leaders, showcasing projects that demonstrate environmental excellence and set an example for everyone across the province.

"We are really excited about and inspired by the examples of environmental leadership from around Alberta that make up this year's list of finalists," says Gregory Caswell, communications and outreach manager, Alberta

Emerald Foundation. "The Emerald Awards recognize and reward outstanding environmental initiatives undertaken by individuals, not-for-profit associations, large and small corporations, community groups and governments from across Alberta."

Since 1992, the Emerald Awards has shared more than 2,500 examples of creative thinking and innovation in environmental management systems, technologies and education programs. By celebrating this excellence with the Emerald Awards, the Alberta Emerald Foundation is helping to raise the public's awareness of the growth in these different areas in recent years.

Every year, the Alberta Emerald Foundation receives nominations in 10 established cross-sectoral categories with a panel of impartial judges reviewing the nominations and choosing a maximum of three finalists in each of the categories.

Individuals and organizations are encouraged to consider entering their projects that may seem "everyday" to them, but could be extraordinary to someone else.

"Often, organizations engage in an environmental practice that seems commonplace to them, but it's likely that their hard work and dedication could inspire others," Caswell says. "The Emerald Awards aim to be the catalyst to raise the expectations and performance of environmental stewardship."

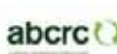
Since its inception 23 years ago, the Emerald Awards has recognized more than 450 finalists and 250 recipients. Over the years, each of the organizations or individuals nominated, made a finalist or awarded a winner of an Emerald Award has, in their own unique and individual way, helped Alberta balance its growth and resource development with the preservation of the environment.



Recognizing, celebrating and inspiring environmental excellence.

For inspiring environmental stories, program information, or to make a donation

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ACTIONS CREATE RIPPLE EFFECT

The CAWST Youth Wavemakers program is helping teach thousands of students across Alberta about local and global water issues and then inspire them to try to address the issues.

The program works with teachers in kindergarten to Grade 12 classrooms across Alberta, providing a wide variety of resources, including lesson plans, games, action planning tools and other curriculum support. Youth Wavemakers also holds professional development workshops for teachers who want to learn about how to integrate global and local water issues into their curriculum.

The program encourages students to directly get involved and make a difference. Youth Wavemakers offers students in kindergarten to Grade 12 anywhere in Canada \$500 action grants to help them develop a project that addresses a water issue, either in their own community or somewhere around the world.

"Youth are encouraged to do two things — take action and build awareness," says Michelle Macdonald, the Youth Wavemakers program manager. "That approach creates a ripple effect that inspires other youth and adults in Alberta to themselves take action on environmental issues."

Every year, Wavemakers gives students a way to demonstrate their impact to the community through Calgary's largest World Water Day event, which attracts hundreds of people. In 2014, youth projects launched through the program conserved more than 500,000 litres of water and reached more than 14,000 Albertans through events, campaigns and other awareness-building initiatives.



CONTRIBUTED

The projects helped fix leaky toilets, install water bottle filling stations in schools, raise awareness about water quality, build water smart gardens and raise money for water causes in Alberta and in developing countries.

"By collecting and sharing stories of action

from youth overseas, in Zambia, Haiti and Nepal, youth here in Alberta are inspired to take action on water issues within their own community," Macdonald says.

Being named an Emerald Awards finalist helps demonstrate to young Albertans who work with Youth Wavemakers that they

are part of a much bigger environmental movement.

"We are thrilled to be finalists for the Emerald Awards," Macdonald says. "The other finalists are among the most inspiring individuals and organizations in Alberta, and it is a privilege to be among that group."

Providing tools for schools

ConocoPhillips Canada encourages young people to become environmental stewards by supporting two different initiatives — the school environmental quest program, and Element Society's destination conservation program.

Since 2007, both of these annual programs have provided schools with the tools they need to help educate their students about the environment, why it's important and what actions people can take to help preserve it.

The school environmental quest (SEQ) program provides grants to help fund various different environmental or energy efficiency projects in kindergarten to Grade 12 schools in Alberta, northeastern British Columbia and the Northwest Territories. The SEQ grants provide the school with \$1,000 to implement environmental and energy-saving programs. The program also provides



resources and workshops to teachers about environmental issues.

Dozens of schools have taken the challenge to develop an environmental project in the last eight years. At the end of each year, ConocoPhillips Canada creates a booklet with information about each initiative and distributes the information to each school that participated in order to help share knowledge and build capacity.

ConocoPhillips Canada SEQ partnered with the Elements Society to fund the destination conservation program in 2007. The program

helps schools fostering an eco-friendly culture by reducing their footprint and establishing student-led environmental projects and programs.

"There are so many innovative and inspiring environmental initiatives underway in Alberta, so to be selected as one of this year's finalists is a true honour," says Barbara Simic, the director of community investment and volunteerism at ConocoPhillips Canada.

"Being selected as a finalist means that although there is still a lot of work to be done to improve the environmental impacts of our work,



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

we're headed in the right direction and making good progress. It's incredibly rewarding."

It is tremendously important to celebrate successes like this, she says. Platforms such as the Emerald Awards serve as a reminder that we all have a role to play in sustaining the environment.

"Hearing about the many ways we are working together to do this is such a positive experience," Simic says.

"It's hopeful and exciting to learn about what we're capable of. We are truly happy to be selected as a finalist this year and look forward to celebrating the hard work and ingenuity that leads to environmental excellence in the province of Alberta. Congratulations to all the nominees and finalists."

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Key Flames return to full practice

NHL PLAYOFFS

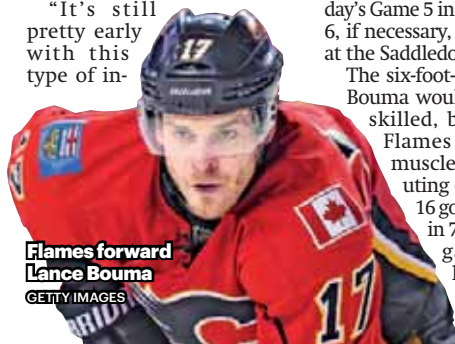
Giordano, Bouma create stir ahead of pivotal Game 4

The truth about injuries in the NHL is even more elusive in playoffs, where watching practice is often the only indicator of who might play the next game.

So the sight of Calgary Flames captain Mark Giordano and rugged right-winger Lance Bouma participating fully in Thursday's practice at Scotiabank Saddledome created a bit of a buzz.

Giordano's surgery on a torn bicep March 4 was considered season-ending. The captain was not encouraging the possibility he'll play in this series, and coach Bob Hartley has thrown cold water on the notion when asked the question almost daily.

"It's still pretty early with this type of in-



Flames forward Lance Bouma
GETTY IMAGES

jury, so we've got to be smart about it," Giordano said.

Bouma, however, looked closer to re-joining the lineup as he took line rushes with centre Matt Stajan and winger David Jones. The Flames company line is "day-to-day" and Bouma dutifully recited that. He also didn't stop smiling the entire skate.

"I feel like I'm ready, so we'll see," Bouma said.

"It's really frustrating when you're skating on your own and you can't help the team out. To be able to get out there with the guys, it was huge."

The Flames trail the Anaheim Ducks 2-1 in their best-of-seven conference semifinal. Game 4 is Friday at the Saddledome followed by Sunday's Game 5 in Anaheim. Game 6, if necessary, is Tuesday back at the Saddledome.

The six-foot-one, 210-pound Bouma would give the fast, skilled, but undersized Flames a measure of muscle while contributing offensively with 16 goals and 18 assists in 78 regular-season games. Bouma led all Flames forwards in blocked shots

this season with 82.

The 25-year-old from Provost, Alta., has yet to play an NHL playoff game. He suffered what is believed to be a hand injury blocking a shot in Calgary's last home game of the regular season.

Michael Ferland filled in admirably for Bouma in the first round. Playing on Stajan's wing, he was a 40-hit, human wrecking ball in six games against the Vancouver Canucks. Ferland also had two goals and two assists in that series.

The burly winger hasn't played in a game since he was squeezed like an accordion in a four-in-the first period of Game 1 in Anaheim. Ferland has practised this week, however.

The Flames need all the beef they can muster against the bigger, heavier Ducks.

"They're a good matchup for me," Bouma said. "Obviously I like playing against them. They're a big team and it's usually a good battle."

Stajan's line has shadowed Anaheim's top trio of Ryan Getzlaf, Corey Perry and Patrick Maroon. Perry's 14 points and Getzlaf's 12 top the league in post-season scoring.

We've got to be smart about it.

Flames captain Mark Giordano on returning from a torn bicep. Forward Lance Bouma is more likely to return in the series vs. the Ducks

Mark Giordano practised on Thursday but says he won't rush back and risk further injury.

GETTY IMAGES



IN TAMPA, FLA.

Habs uncork offence to stay alive vs. Lightning

If there's such thing as hockey amnesia, the Montreal Canadiens discovered it.

Less than 24 hours after losing with 1.1 seconds left to fall behind three games to none, the Canadiens skated the Tampa Bay Lightning out of Amalie Arena Thursday night with a 6-2 statement victory to stave off elimination.

The series shifts back to Bell Centre for Game 5 Saturday night.

So much of the Habs' struggles against the Lightning appeared mental after losing all five regular-season meetings and then the first three of their second-round playoff series. Compound that with the devastating buzzer beater from Tyler Johnson in Game 3 and a quick turnaround, the task was even more daunting.

Instead, Montreal came out flying to avoid becoming the first team in NHL history to get swept by the same team they swept the season before.

Max Pacioretty led the way with a goal and two assists as the Habs chased Tampa Bay starter Ben Bishop, who allowed three on 14 shots.

Carey Price THE CANADIAN PRESS

was the sweatiest jersey in the group.

"I was feeling it for sure," Giordano said. "I've been given the green light to shoot a bit harder and try it out, so now it's just confidence with myself. I've got to get my strength up, get my shot up and take some more contact."

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BOXING

Pacquiao 'a sore loser,' Mayweather says

Floyd Mayweather Jr. said in an upcoming interview with Showtime that at this moment he's not interested in a rematch with Manny Pacquiao "because he's a sore loser and he's a coward."

The interview was recorded late Tuesday night and will air Saturday night after the network's replay of boxing's richest fight, which Mayweather won by decision last weekend in Las Vegas to stay undefeated.

Asked if he thought Pacquiao was hampered by the right shoulder injury that later required surgery, Mayweather tells Jim Gray, "Absolutely not."

"Excuses, excuses, excuses," he said later.

"He was fast," Mayweather insists in quotes released Thursday. "His left

hand was fast. His right hand was fast and he was throwing them both fast and strong."

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I lost a lot of respect for him after all of this.

Floyd Mayweather Jr.

Using an expletive for emphasis, Mayweather adds that "I'm not going to buy into" it, "and I don't want the public

to buy into" it. "He lost," Mayweather said.

"He knows he lost. I lost a lot of respect for him after all of this."

Mayweather acknowledges that he earlier texted ESPN's Stephen A. Smith to say he welcomed a rematch.

"Yeah, but I change my mind," Mayweather said. "At this particular time, no, because he's a sore loser and he's a coward ... If you lost, accept the loss and say, 'Mayweather, you were the better fighter.'"

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Josh Morrissey has won gold at the world junior championship, Ivan Hlinka Memorial Tournament and under-18 worlds.

FRANK GUNN/GETTY IMAGES

Morrissey fired up for WHL final

WHL

Kelowna defenceman looks to add to title résumé

LAST MEETING

The Rockets beat the Wheat Kings in the only meeting between the two teams this season.

Josh Morrissey has excelled on the international stage for Canada during his four-year Western Hockey League career, but until now he has never had the chance to play for a league title.

The Kelowna Rockets defenceman aims to make the most of it as his club faces the Wheat Kings in the final, starting Friday in Brandon, Man. This marks the first time since 2003 that the top two regular-season teams have reached the championship series.

"Knowing that this could very well be my last season in junior, I definitely want to end it off in the right way," said Morrissey, a Winnipeg Jets prospect who is expected to play in the AHL or NHL next season.

The 19-year-old Calgary native helped Canada win this year's world junior championship. He has also garnered gold medals at the Ivan Hlinka Memorial Tournament and under-18 worlds. After beginning the season with the struggling Prince Albert Raiders, he is savouring the rare chance for a world junior crown, a WHL championship and a Memorial Cup title in one season.

"Regardless of your age or time in the league or anything like that, it's so hard to win and so hard to get the chance to win," he said. "You might never have that opportunity (at any level) again. ... For our team, I think we really want to relish it now." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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IN BRIEF

Bulls' Butler named most-improved player

Jimmy Butler of the Chicago Bulls was named the NBA's most-improved player on Thursday after making his first all-star team and averaging a career high in scoring.

The 25-year-old Butler received 92 of 129 first-place votes from a panel of sportswriters and broadcasters. Golden State's Draymond Green of the finished second. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hearn, Matsuyama, Na, Hoffman tied atop Players

Charley Hoffman had eight birdies in a round that showed the TPC Sawgrass can strike at any time.

A triple bogey on his 10th hole turned a great day into a very good one. His 5-under 67 on Thursday gave him a share of the lead at The Players Championship with Hideki Matsuyama, Kevin Na and Brampton native David Hearn. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes
Serving size: 5

Ingredients

- 1 lb extra-lean ground beef
- ¼ cup dry bread crumbs
- ¼ cup chopped green onion
- 3 Tbsp chopped cilantro or parsley
- 4 Tbsp hoisin sauce, divided
- 2 tsp minced fresh garlic
- 1 tsp minced fresh ginger
- 1 egg
- 2 Tbsp water
- 1 tsp sesame oil

Directions

1. Heat the barbecue to high and spray with cooking oil, or pre-heat the oven to 450°F.

2. Combine the beef, bread

crumbs, green onion, cilantro or parsley, 2 Tbsp of the hoisin sauce, garlic, ginger and egg in a bowl. Mix thoroughly and form into 10 mini burgers.

3. Whisk the water, remaining 2 Tbsp hoisin sauce and sesame oil together in a small bowl.

4. Brush half of the sauce over the burgers.

5. Barbecue, or place on a rack on a baking sheet and bake for 10 to 15 minutes (until no longer pink in the centre). Turn the patties once, halfway through, and brush with the remaining sauce. Serve on mini hamburger buns, if desired, and garnish with sautéed onions.

Nutrition per serving (2 mini burgers)

- Calories 264
- Protein 30g
- Carbohydrates 15 g
- Fibre 2.4 g
- Total fat 7 g

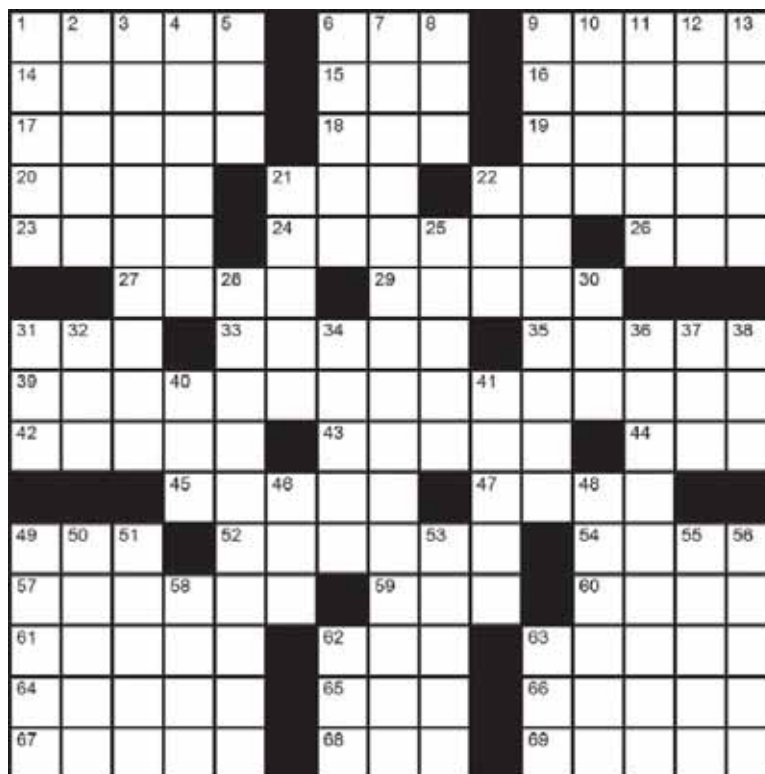
PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. "Dancing with the Stars" dance
6. Brand symbols, e.g.
9. Flavour
14. "Easy Livin'" by ___ Heep
15. Diving bird
16. Happen again
17. Ancient Scots
18. Edward Snowden related org.
19. Field
20. Uncommon
21. Knowledgeable letters
22. Tea party offerings
23. Buffalo type
24. Surname of Jessica Simpson's first husband
26. Earlier, olde-style
27. Chop ___
29. "Mad Men" star Jon, and surnamesakes
31. Li'l life story
33. ___ carpeting
35. Zing
39. Wild Roses in Alberta: 2 wds.
42. ___ Spruce (Tree in British Columbia)
43. Talent or style
44. Convent dweller
45. Gluck opera: ___ ed Euridice
47. "___ Flux" (2005)
49. "Senor" suffix
52. Chanel No. 5 = Eau de ___
54. Pre-stereo
57. ___ (Franken-free food label)
59. Some radio



- stations, e.g.
60. Barenaked Ladies song
61. Dugout boat
62. Battery size
63. Upper crust
64. In the Skin of ___ (Novel by Canadian author Michael Ondaatje)

65. Crash Test Dummies song, when repeated
66. Montreal subway
67. Snoozed
68. Anne Shirley's prov.
69. Canadian player for the St. Louis Blues,

Alexander ___

DOWN

1. Prefix meaning 'Above'
2. 'Parliament' suffix
3. Huge techie corporation
4. Boat, in Boucher-ville
5. Sneeze starters...
6. Ms. Tucker of country
7. Alanis Morissette is its 2015 Canadian inductee: 4 wds.
8. Music style
9. Toronto-born host of "Cityline": 2 wds.
10. ___ Space Museum

- of Calgary
11. Vista
12. Guitar gadget
13. Obliterate
21. "The ___" (1989) starring Eric Stoltz
22. School yr. part
25. ___ dozen (Bakery order)
28. Ontario: The Niagara ___
30. Scatter seed
31. "10" (1979) star Ms. Derek's
32. "___ Fell" by The Beatles
34. Canadian journalist Morley
36. ___ Heritage Village (Tourist attraction in Steinbach, Manitoba)
37. 'Dear' lady of a Beatles song, briefly
38. QVC rival in The States
40. Dixie Cups song, when doubled
41. Mr. Neeson's
46. ___ Schwarz (New York City toy store)
48. Morning meal
49. Andes people, once
50. ___ intents and purposes
51. Ms. Lennox
53. Savoury 'fifth taste'
55. Saltpetre
56. Ancient theatre
58. Gwyneth Paltrow's lifestyles website, ___com
62. Roadie's haul
63. Bad ___ (German spa resort)

★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries March 21 - April 20
You will need to be on your guard today as someone you work or do business with seems to think you can be easily misled. Check everything you are told, even if it sounds true.

♉ Taurus April 21 - May 21
Make the most of Mars in your sign to get things done and let the people you live and work with know that you won't be pushed around. You don't have to be aggressive about it but you do have to protect your interests.

♊ Gemini May 22 - June 21
It might be a good idea to take it easy for the next few days, or what passes for easy in the Gemini universe. When Mars moves into your sign early next week there will be no holding you back.

♋ Cancer June 22 - July 23
There seems to be quite a bit of tension in the air at the moment and if you are involved in matters of a joint nature it will pay you to tone down your views and opinions a bit.

♌ Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
What you want to do and what you have to do are likely to be two entirely different things today. But don't let that depress you because you can still enjoy yourself.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Chances are you will be forced to stay where you are today, even though you would much rather be on the move. That might sound like bad news but the planets indicate it could be a blessing in disguise. Stay home and keep a low profile.

♎ Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
It will pay you to keep your opinions to yourself today, especially on the work front where your know-it-all attitude is unlikely to go down too well. The best way to fall out with powerful people is to make them look stupid.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
A friend or work colleague will say something you disagree with today but if you are smart you will bite your tongue and pass up the chance to make an issue of it.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Make sure that everything you do has a purpose today. Despite what you may think to the contrary you do not possess unlimited energy, so ration it carefully, especially on the work front.

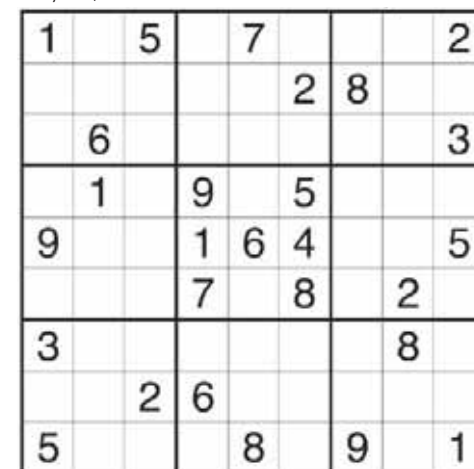
♑ Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Say what you have to say as plainly as possible, so there can be no misunderstandings. That is not, however, an excuse to be rude and does not have to be a martial art!

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You of all people should know that personal feelings should never be allowed to interfere with the facts, and the fact of the matter now is that the person who is giving you so much grief is more foolish than malicious. Don't be too hard on them.

♓ Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Why are you worrying so much? Whatever the reason you need to get over it because there is so much you could be doing with your life now. And remember, even negative events can have positive results.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

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